



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Friday, January 24, 2020

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Join us for the 2020
Advocacy Day on
February 25! **REGISTER!**

Announcements & Reminders

Register today! Please join us and show your support for your library at the **2020 Advocacy Day** on February 25 in Albany. Visit the link below to register. Please click [HERE](#) to register even if you are driving yourself as Kristi will need to sign you up for specific meetings! Thank you!

Links to Make You Think

[All the Ways Facebook Tracks You—and How to Limit It](#)

[The History and Debunking Of Librarian Stereotypes](#)



[Local Community Foundation celebrates 20 years](#)

[Your Library's Story: Taking control of the narrative](#)

[Public libraries reach record-high ebook/audiobook usage](#)

[Reese Witherspoon Seeks Book Club Librarian-in-Residence](#)

From The Director



This week, Governor Cuomo released an agenda for his upcoming budget that rolls back library aid and construction aid for the fourth year in a row. We have a short period of time until the budget is passed in April to advocate for restorations and show how our libraries help build communities. Here is what we know:

Cuomo's State Library Aid proposal is \$91.6 million. This is \$5 million less than last year. It is far short of the \$200 million NYLA legislative ask. Cuts to library aid to our system would be catastrophic and could result in cuts in services and staff at this point. Small gains in library aid keep us in a "status quo" position and mean we are often unable to provide new and innovative technology, services, or enhanced e-content when we are faced with rising costs of these services on a regular, sometimes yearly basis.

Construction aid in Cuomo's proposal is \$14 million. This is \$20 million less than last year. The large increase in construction aid last year helped fund projects such as large library expansions and renovations. Every single cent we receive from State construction aid is used every single year in our system. The State Division of Library Development estimates that library renovation and construction needs are \$1.5B statewide. Over 50% of public libraries in NYS are 60+ years old, and an additional 31% are 30+ years old. Many of our libraries are older buildings that need new lighting, heating and cooling upgrades, and expansions due to increased usage. A cut in construction aid is catastrophic to our libraries that are planning for their future. NYLA's proposal for construction aid is \$75 million.

What can you do in advocacy efforts over the next two months? Attend Advocacy Day in Albany on Tuesday, February 25. We provide a free bus, schedule your legislative visits for you, and are known for our fabulous snacks we provide free of charge. We provide valuable talking points, legislator biographies, and tips for your visit so you can walk into your scheduled meeting informed and confident in your advocacy ask.

This year we are asking library supporters to write letters to the editor about library aid cuts. We will provide the templates to you to make the letters easy to compose. Take part in advocacy alert emails that we send out – they are pre-filled for your ease, but can be modified if you would like to make your message more personal. Make phone calls to your legislators and to Governor Cuomo. If you would like sample language to use for making legislative phone calls, please let me know. If you can't visit your legislator in Albany, make a visit to their local office for a five minute chat on why libraries matter.

Over the next month we will be sending regular advocacy alerts out to directors and trustees.

Have a great weekend!
Sarah



Member Library News

Seniors, children unite at story time and craft event in Auburn

The Citizen | Kelly Rocheleau | Jan 11, 2020

AUBURN — A corner of Bluefield Manor in Auburn was devoted to stories, songs, crafts and more on Saturday.

An intergenerational storytelling event, in which seniors and children spent time with each other, was held at Bluefield, which offers senior independent living apartments and homes. Seymour Library has hosted the monthly events for six months.

Jill Hand, the library's youth services coordinator, read the illustrated tale "Snowmen at Night," written by Caralyn Buehner and illustrated by Richard Buehner, to the children and adults at the event. Hand read the story, which is about what a boy believes snowmen do during nighttime, with an energetic tone and animated expressions. Hand asked the children what they believe snowmen do at night. Jachin Main guessed that they drink cold cocoa, while Eli Bowman said they play snowmen games. Hand smiled and asked if they had read the story before. Jachin, 7, said he hadn't. At one point in the story, Hand read that the snowmen do indeed drink cold cocoa at night, causing Jachin to exclaim "I was right!"

CONTINUE READING...



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Scam Alert!

New Year, New You...Same W-2 Tax Scam

January 2020 Volume 15 Issue 1, From the desk of Thomas F. Duffy, MS-ISAC Chair

Tax season is in full swing, which means criminals will go to great lengths to separate you from your money, your identity, or anything of value that is within their reach. They may offer seemingly legitimate "tax services" that are actually designed to steal your identity and your tax refund. Often times, criminals will lure you in with an offer of larger write-offs or refunds. Such scams might include fake websites and tax forms that look like they belong to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in order to trick you into providing your personal information. Due to the rise in data breaches, you should always take steps to minimize your risk of identity theft and other online-related crimes; this is especially important this time of the year. Below are some warning signs to look for and basic precautions you can take to minimize risk and avoid becoming the next victim!

Warning Signs of an Online Tax Scam:

- An email or link requesting personal and/or financial information, such as your name, social security number, bank or credit card account numbers, or any additional security-related information.
- Emails containing various forms of threats or consequences if no response is received, such as additional taxes or blocking access to your funds.
- Emails from the IRS or federal agencies. The IRS will not contact you via email.
- Emails containing exciting offers, tax refunds, incorrect spelling, grammar, or odd phrasing throughout.
- Emails discussing "changes to tax laws." These email scams typically include a downloadable document (usually in PDF format) that purports to explain the new tax laws. However, unbeknownst to many, these downloads are almost always populated with malware that, once downloaded, will infect your computer.

How To Avoid Being a Victim:

- **Never Send Sensitive Information in an Email.** Information sent through email can be intercepted by criminals. Make sure to consistently check your financial account statements and your credit report for any signs of unauthorized activity.
- **Secure Your Computer.** Ensure your computer has the latest security updates installed. Check that your anti-virus and anti-spyware software are running properly and receiving automatic updates from the vendor. If you haven't already done so, install and enable a firewall.
- **Carefully Select the Sites You Visit.** Safely searching for tax forms, advice on deductibles, tax preparers, and other similar topics requires great caution. NEVER visit a site by clicking on a link sent in an email, found on someone's blog, or in an advertisement. The websites you land on might look like legitimate sites, but can also be very well-crafted fakes.
- **Be Wise with Wi-Fi.** Wi-Fi hotspots are intended to provide convenient access to the internet, however, this convenience can come at a cost. Public Wi-Fi is not secure and is susceptible to eavesdropping by hackers, therefore, never use public Wi-Fi to file your taxes!
- **Look for Clear Signs.** Common scams will tout tax rebates, offer great deals on tax preparation, or offer a free tax calculator tool. If you did not solicit the information, it's likely a scam.
- **Be on the Watch for Fake IRS Scams.** The IRS will not contact you via email, text messaging, or your social network, nor does it advertise on websites. Additionally, if an email appears to be from your employer or bank claiming there is an issue that requires you to verify personal information, this is most likely a scam as well. Don't respond to these types of emails; always contact the entity directly.
- **Always Utilize Strong Passwords.** Cybercriminals have developed programs that automate the ability to guess your passwords. To best protect yourself, make your passwords difficult to guess. Passwords should have a minimum of nine characters and include uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols.

If you receive a tax-related phishing or suspicious email at work, report it according to your organization's cybersecurity policy. If you receive a similar email on your personal account, the IRS encourages you to forward the original suspicious email (with headers or as an attachment) to its phishing@irs.gov email account, or to call the IRS at 800-908-4490. More information about tax scams is available on the IRS website and in the IRS Dirty Dozen list of tax scams.

Additional Resources: Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft - <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft>, Report Phishing - <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Report-Phishing>, or IRS Dirty Dozen - <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/dirty-dozen>



Webinars, Workshops, & Events

FLLS Events

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

Census 2020 Hybrid Workshop

Thursday, February 6, 10:00am-11:30am

Held at Finger Lakes Library System & Online! This workshop will be facilitated by FLLS and feature a Q&A with New York Regional Census Center Partnership Specialist, Kate Dillon.

2020 Advocacy Day

Tuesday, February 25, 6:00am-6:00pm

Join us in Albany for the 2020 Advocacy Day. Please RSVP by Friday February 15th if you are planning to join us.

Summer Planning Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 9:00am-12:00pm

Held at Finger Lakes Library System
Get ideas and work on planning for Summer 2020: Imagine Your Story.

Conferences & Outside Trainings

Library 2.020: Wholehearted Libraries

March 10, 2020

Online

This mini-conference will explore the human side of 21st-Century information work. We will define what soft skills are, how and when to use various soft skills, types of training that can improve soft skills, and how to share emotionally engaging stories. Learn what libraries are doing now to extend services, create welcoming spaces, and engage users with soft skills such as compassion, empathy, creativity, curiosity, and finding balance. Sessions will focus on how we can nurture a positive mindset in our employees, use the power of stories to promote understanding, and extend our reach into our global communities. Soft skills are heart skills. This event is being organized in partnership with iSchool Associate Professor Michael Stephens.

YSS Spring Conference

May 15, 2020

Clayton, NY

Register today! Early Bird Pricing available through March 10, 2020.

Webinars

Tools for Building Online Banking Skills with Your Patrons

Thursday, January 30, 2:00pm (FREE)

Houston and Queens Public Libraries offer the innovative financial wellbeing program Ready, Set, BankSM, in partnership with Capital One, to meet the significant demand for senior digital skill development and financial wellbeing classes. This free webinar will show you how this program helps patrons navigate the world of online banking by providing hands-on demonstrations, video tutorials, and answers to questions about safeguarding personal information online, along with step-by-step guidance on how to manage a bank account on a computer or mobile device.

To Be Well Read, You Must Be Well Fed: Libraries Nourishing Kids' Minds and Bodies with Summer Meals

Wednesday, February 5, 2:00pm (FREE)

The webinar will provide information on the need for healthy meals during the summer, why libraries are uniquely suited to this task, and how libraries can participate. Time will be provided for participant questions at the end of the webinar.

Librarian as Verb: Activate Your Rural Community

Wednesday, February 5, 3:00pm (FREE)

Making connections and being an active part of the community you serve is especially important in small and rural libraries. It makes your library more visible and also enhances the quality of life in the community. Learn how a rural library director transformed library services over one summer, by getting out and growing awareness in the community.

Little Library, Big Impact: Financial Literacy at Small and Rural Libraries

Tuesday, February 18, 2:00pm (FREE)

Clancy Pool of the Whitman County Library in Colfax, Washington and Johnna Schultz of the Effingham Public Library in Effingham, Illinois will share how they have built partnerships and engaging programs that serve a wide group of users to increase financial knowledge in their communities.



Programming Ideas

Program idea: Kindness Cards

Taken from Teen Services Underground Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/407834692712782/permalink/1618163661679873/>

“Sharing this easy volunteer project! Teens made watercolor positivity cards, which I put in the library for other teens to take. I bought watercolor paper & paint, then gave the teens a list of sample phrases (or they could write their own). It takes a few minutes for the watercolor to dry, so they painted the cards first, then wrote the phrases in black permanent marker. If you need projects for volunteers, this was a fun one!” The original poster also included links to the supplies she used, a file of the “Take a Card” sign, and the list of sample phrases, but you will need to be a part of the Facebook Group to access the files.”



Patron-friendly handouts and how-to brochures for HeritageQuest, rbDigital, Novelist, OverDrive (& more!) can be found here:

<https://www.flls.org/brochures>



We have a board for that!
Check out our [Pinterest! Page!](#)



Census 2020 Update

Topic: Resources

There are a plethora of resources available on the Census Bureau website! According to the 2020 Resources webpage, “New activities designed specifically for the 2019-2020 school year spotlight the 2020 Census and the importance of making sure everyone is counted, especially children. The decennial count impacts the federal funds that communities receive for special education, classroom technology, teacher training, after-school programs, school lunch assistance, and more. Use activities for pre-K through 12th grade today to help your students, school, and community.”



K-12 Activities



Pre-K Materials



ELL/Adult ESL

Visit the 2020 Resources page:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/2020census/2020-resources.html>

In the News

Updated! ALA releases updated Libraries' Guide to the 2020 Census
Public Libraries and the 2020 Census

Census Bureau Releases New Content on 2020Census.Gov in 59 Languages

U.S. Census Bureau Unveils 2020 Census Ads

2020 Census Starts in Toksook Bay, Alaska

Training

New! Governor Andrew Cuomo in partnership with the NYS Complete Count Commission cordially invite you to attend the *2020 State Census Conference in Albany* on Tuesday January 28 from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Hart Theatre Lounge - The Egg, 1 Empire State Plaza, S Mall Arterial Albany, NY 12203. **REGISTER**

Census 2020 Hybrid Workshop on Thursday, February 6 from 10:00am-11:30am at Finger Lakes Library System & Online! This workshop will be facilitated by FLLS and feature a Q&A with New York Regional Census Center Partnership Specialists, Kate Dillon and Tina Hanford. **REGISTER**

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Consulting, Resources, Training:

Jenny Shonk

jshonk@flls.org or 607-273-4074 x236

Technology:

Rex Helwig or Eric Franks

rhelwig@flls.org/efranks@flls.org or 607-273-4074 x237



Polaris FAQ

Add Your Items to the Correct Bibs

Titles with different ISBNs should be on separate records. Make sure to add your items to the correct bibliographic record! For example, a regular print book and a large type book will have separate ISBN's and therefore separate bibs! If there is only a bib record for a regular print book and you have a large type book, then you would create a QuickBib! **Questions?** Contact Jenny at jshonk@flls.org or Deb at dgeier@flls.org. Check out more information about ISBNs and UPCs below!

- A Quick Bib requires an ISBN (MARC tag 020) and/or a UPC/EAN code (MARC tag 024). If no ISBN AND no UPC/EAN code available on the item, **DON'T CREATE** a Quick bib. If by chance, only an ISBN or a UPC/EAN code is available, please enter "none" in one or the other remaining tag. For example:

020 (ISBN)	1400060079
024 (UPC/EAN)	9781400060078
020 (ISBN)	none
024 (UPC/EAN)	9781400060078
020 (ISBN)	1400060079
024 (UPC/EAN)	none
- **DON'T CREATE A QUICK BIB WITH:**

020 (ISBN)	none
024 (UPC/EAN)	none
- The ISBN can be either 10 or 13 digits in length. The 13 digit ISBNs begin with 978 or 979 (for example, 9780553803426) – NEVER enter the segmented numbers with hyphens. For example:

YES: 020 (ISBN)	1400060079
NO: 020 (ISBN)	1-4000-6007-9
- The UPC/EAN code may vary in length, usually 11-13 digits – **DON'T** enter spaces or hyphens. For example:

YES: 024 (UPC/EAN)	9781400060078
NO: 024 (UPC/EAN)	97 8140006007 8
- Be very careful transcribing the ISBN and/or UPC code. If there is an error, it makes it very difficult for FLLS catalogers to replace the Quick bib with a permanent bib record. Scanning the ISBN/UPC eliminates errors. If your scanner doesn't scan ISBN's/UPC's, contact Rex and he will help configure your scanner.

Don't forget about the Polaris Documentation online!
Visit www.flls.org and click on Staff Login.
Contact Jenny, Eric, or Rex for the login information.



Awards & Grants



It's that time again! Do you have an idea for an outreach project but lack funding? Member libraries in our service area can apply for an Outreach Mini-Grant! Applications are **NOW OPEN** for the 2020-2021 grant cycle. **All applications are due March 20, 2020.** Visit the [Outreach Services](#) page to download an application or to view the FAQs and Tips. *Have a question? Stuck on an idea?* Read our FAQs/Tips or email Jenny Shonk at jshonk@fills.org.



Deadline: February 3, 2020

The Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant is an annual grant to recognize, promote and support innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries. Community engagement is the process of working collaboratively with community members – be they library patrons, residents, faculty, students or local organizations – to address issues for the betterment of the community.

The intent of the grant is to provide support for a school, public, academic, tribal or special library to expand their community engagement efforts. Libraries are invited to apply by designing and outlining activities for a library-led community engagement project. Proposed projects should focus on creating innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts. Visit <http://www.ala.org/tools/programming/LTCEG> for more information.