



FINGER LAKES
LIBRARY SYSTEM



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.1

Friday, January 8, 2021

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Announcements & Reminders

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: <http://www.fils.org/2020reopenpoll/>. If you are closing your library due to a COVID-19 exposure, please also email sglogowski@fils.org.

NYS Annual Reports for Public Libraries will be due to Kristi Downham by March 1. Boards of Trustees should plan accordingly and make sure your Annual Reports are on your February board meeting agendas to be voted on by your board so that you can get your reports in on time. *At this time, no extensions will be given.*

Links to Make You Think

Governor Cuomo Launches Free Online Platform for New Yorkers to Learn New Job Skills



Raising Money for a Good Claws

The Guilty Librarian: Grappling with Job-Related Guilt

7 Ways to Make Your Virtual Programs More Accessible to Patrons with Disabilities

From The Director



I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing holiday season! As we look forward to what 2021 will bring our libraries and beyond, I do want to acknowledge that in parts of our service area, positivity rates are the highest they have ever been. I received many calls from libraries this past week asking about when to rollback services, why the Governor isn't putting their area into cluster zones, and more. Please remember that minimum standards are currently relaxed for minimum hours open and your requirement for providing a public restroom is still waived also. Library boards still are allowed to reduce services, move to curbside, etc. without jeopardizing those areas of the minimum standards.

Open Meetings Law Continued Suspension - With the passage of [Executive Order 202.87](#), the adjustments to NYS Open Meetings Law to allow for online meetings have been extended to January 29, 2021. Your meetings can still occur online or by telephone. If your board is meeting in person, please remember to follow social distancing and wear masks while meeting. Please remember that all board meetings must be open to the public, recorded, and later transcribed.

New York State Library Re-Opening Survey of Public Library Systems - The New York State Library has requested that all public library systems begin monthly reporting of member libraries' "current regularly scheduled weekly hours of in-person services (including lobby and curbside)." Public library systems completed a beginning survey in December, and regular reporting began on January 8.

The New York State Library and PLS/PULISDO have established a Reopening Committee and will work together to encourage more libraries to re-open and determine what can be done to eliminate re-opening barriers during the fluid COVID-19 pandemic, especially as it relates to the minimum hours open standard. The Committee will review and establish public library/central library minimum open hours during the pandemic and develop a waiver policy and procedure that can be implemented quickly to meet the constantly changing conditions during the pandemic. The committee will function to help library systems and member libraries get the data they need to make decisions about reopening. Reopening status is very important to build a case for long-term sustainability. The reopening survey will serve to provide a snapshot of reopening status and will keep the public library systems and State Library informed on library reopening progress.

Committee Members:

- Caroline Ashby, PULISDO
- Jan Dekoff, PULISDO
- Sarah Glogowski, PULISDO Chair
- Amy Heebner, NYSL
- Mary Jean Jakubowski, PULISDO
- Jane Minotti, NYSL
- Al Oliveras, NYSL
- Frank Rees, NYSL Chair
- Grace Riario, PULISDO

Virtual Advocacy Day – A reminder that Advocacy Day will be virtual this year and will occur on Friday, February 26. We will be sending out more information to directors and trustees shortly.

Have a wonderful weekend!
Sarah



Member Library News

Do you love to sew?
Or would you be interested in donating a yard of flannel?



Pick up instructions on how to make a receiving blanket at home (or donate fabric & we will make it for you!)
Completed Blankets will be donated to the Cortland Pregnancy Center.
Contact the library for more information.
(607) 753-1042

Cortland Free Library

What a thoughtful idea! The library provides instructions and materials, if needed. The project requires 1 yard of 45" fabric.

Contact ref@cortlandfreelibrary.org to request a copy of the instructions to adapt for your own library!

Tompkins County Public Library

TCPL's Sarah O'Shea, Head of Youth Services, was interviewed for the Ithaca Times!

Visit the link below to read the full article:
<https://bit.ly/2Lhe89R>





Scam Alert!

Malicious Browser Notifications: The New Phishing Attack Not Blocked by Your Current Cyber Defense

Cybercriminals have added a devious weapon to their attack arsenals - **malicious browser notifications**. And the worst part is they're **not blocked by any current cyber defense**. These innocuous looking pop ups can wreak havoc on your network while remaining completely undetected.

They look more realistic than traditional phishing methods and are **designed to trick your unsuspecting users**. This is just the latest in a list of sneaky browser attacks the bad guys use to infiltrate your network.

Join Roger Grimes, **KnowBe4's Data-Driven Defense Evangelist** to find out what you need to know now about malicious browser attacks and how to stop them.

Attend this session to learn:

- How legitimate websites are targeted to deliver these stealthy phishing attacks
- Why browser notification phishing attacks bypass your cyber defenses
- Other sneaky browser attacks the bad guys use to infiltrate your network
- How to shore up your defenses and to protect against them all

Earn CPE credit for attending!

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 13 at 2:00pm

Visit the link below to register!

[https://event.on24.com/wcc/
r/2943930/8B18F65457EF94CF67224CF723CCBB0D?partnerref=CHNSA](https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2943930/8B18F65457EF94CF67224CF723CCBB0D?partnerref=CHNSA)





Online Learning

Upcoming Webinars & Meetings

New Sick Leave Law (ESLN)

Wednesday, January 13, 10:00am

Empire State Library Network is offering a new webinar with Stephanie "Cole" Adams and Holly M. Nowak. This fall, New York implemented a new law requiring employers with 1-4 employees to offer up to 40 hours a year unpaid sick leave. Also as part of the new law, employers with over 5 employees must offer paid sick leave--and must not require the disclosure of confidential medical information to use the leave. And finally, as of January 1, 2021 employers required to follow this law must also allow employees to use sick leave time to take care of relatives. As part of the presentation, Cole and Holly will also discuss when to "check with legal," and when to "check with HR." Registrants will be sent a template policy in advance, to check against their own practices. *Select SCRLC as your ESLN council when registering.*

NYLA Library Advocacy Day

Friday, February 26

Save the date! Our Annual Library Advocacy Day will look a little different in 2021. With an all virtual format, library advocates across New York will have the opportunity to engage with their community, peers, and legislative representatives in new and exciting ways. More information coming soon!

Let's Move in Libraries (PLS)

Friday, March 19, 10:00am

Pioneer Library System (Canandaigua, NY) has invited our members to attend a webinar in March! Everyone has a role to play in increasing healthy living, including libraries! Let's Move in Libraries is an international initiative to get people of all ages and abilities on the path to health. With their impressive reach and great potential for impact, public libraries can and do support healthy communities through StoryWalks®, seed collections, Yoga classes, gardens, cooking classes, and much, much more. Join Noah Lenstra, Director of Let's Move in Libraries, to learn how your library can join the thousands of libraries around the world promoting healthy living!

Conferences & Special Programs



NYLA YSS Conference 2021

Apply today for one of the scholarships to attend the all new virtual 2021 YSS Spring Conference on Friday, March 26, 2021. There are two scholarships available. Each of the scholarships is designed to cover registration fees and up to \$250 reimbursement.

The purpose of Spring Conference Scholarships is to encourage continuing education in the field of library youth services by participating in the annual YSS Spring Conference. Two awards are given annually. The first is the New Member Spring Conference Scholarship. It is given to a new member of our profession. The second is the Lisa C. Wemett Spring Conference Scholarship. It is given to a highly motivated established librarian who has had a significant impact on youth and youth services in her/his community

- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Scholarship Page](#)
- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Scholarship Application](#) (Contact nburrows@fls.org if you would like a PDF copy)
- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Page](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS DEADLINE:
February 1, 2021

Please address PDF applications to:

Meghin Roberts

YSS Scholarship Committee Chair
Baldwinsville Public Library
33 E. Genesee St
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
(315) 635-5631



Programming Ideas

Updated Virtual Storytime Resources

- Make sure to get permission and thank the publisher, author, & illustrator! View updated publisher info in the SLJ directory found here: <https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=publisher-information-directory-copyright-storytime-social-media-permissions-covid-19>.
- Some permissions expired 12/31/2020. Here is an update on the major publishers: Simon & Schuster has extended to 3/31/21. Macmillan, Penguin Random House, Harper Collins, and Little, Brown, & Co. have extended to 6/30/21. When in doubt, contact the publisher directly or ask Nora or Jenny!
- Recorded videos will have more restrictions than a live and/or private Zoom meeting.
- Find video creation and editing tools here: <https://www.alsc.org/blog/2020/11/online-storytimes-creation-editing-tools/>. See also the ALSC Virtual Storytime Services Guide: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/virtual-storytime-services-resource-guide>.
- FYI: Tumblebooks titles can be used with no restrictions!
- Connect with your local school to get the word out.
- Make it engaging! Have viewers locate specific objects to show you or search for something in your background, include a craft, or tour someplace fun! Examples include: a farm, a local lighthouse, or a nature trail.



The Importance of Self-Care During the Pandemic

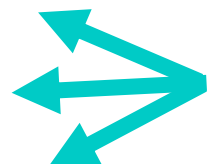
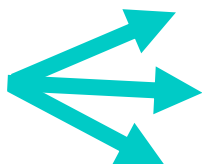
Please give yourself some grace during this time. If you are burned out, you're no good to anyone! Get enough sleep, hydrate, and be kind to yourself. **If you are feeling out-of-control or very anxious please don't be afraid to reach out to colleagues, friends, family, or a professional.**

Directors, Supervisors, & Trustees – please check in with your staff. Virtual programming and curbside are both incredibly time-intensive (as compared to previous in-person services). Zoom fatigue and burnout are real and can have serious health consequences.

Self-Care for Stressful Times

Mayo Clinic Self-Care Tips

CDC Resources for You & Your Community



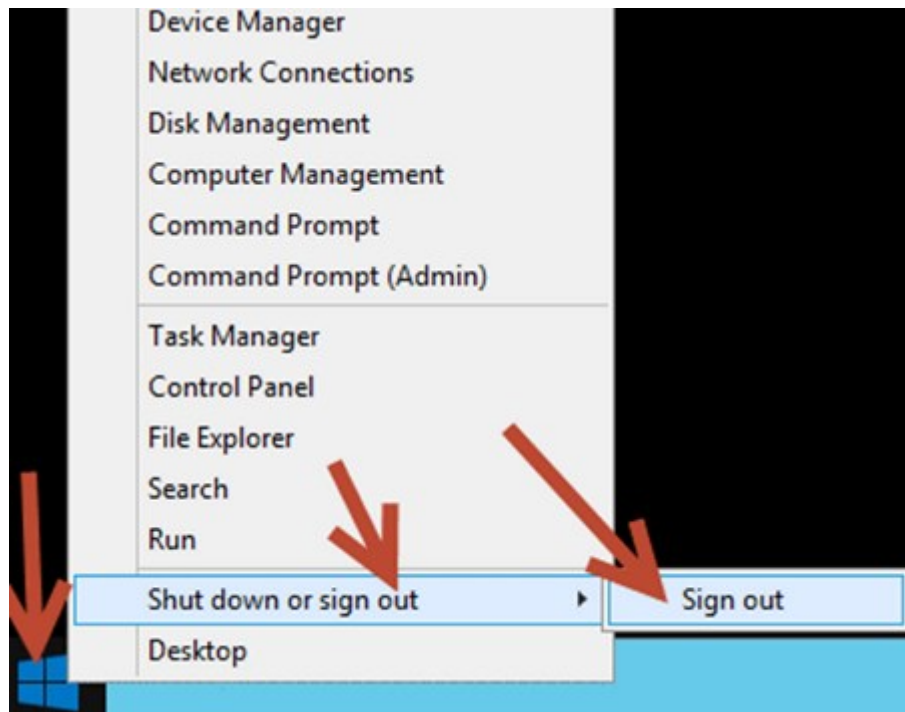


Polaris FAQ

Logging Off Properly

Logging off the Polaris Client incorrectly can be detrimental!

To Log Off: On the toolbar, go to the **File > Log Off** or use **Ctrl L** and select **OK**. After properly logging off, click once on the **X** in the upper right hand corner of the Polaris toolbar to close it (or **File > Exit**). Then, go to the Windows button in the bottom left hand corner of the screen, right click, move your mouse to **Shut down or sign out**, and left click on **Sign out**.



REMINDER: All trainings will be held virtually until the pandemic ends. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings on Zoom. Email jshonk@flls.org to schedule a session.

REMINDER: Polaris handouts on the FLLS website have been updated, including Polaris New User, Advanced Polaris, Item Maintenance Part 1 (now includes the “other special procedures” document), Item Maintenance Part 2, and Polaris Reporting. To access the handouts visit <https://www.flls.org/> and click on **STAFF LOGIN**. Enter the username and password and click on **Log In**. Then click on **Polaris Documentation**. If you find any errors or come across something that is unclear in any of the training materials, please let Jenny know. Please contact jshonk@flls.org, efranks@flls.org, or rhelwig@flls.org for the username and password.



Awards & Grants

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus On Small and Rural Libraries *Round 2 Now Open!*



The American Library Association (ALA) invites libraries in small and rural communities to apply for grant funding to help them address issues of concern in their communities.

Up to 650 U.S. libraries in small and rural communities will receive \$3,000 each to tackle issues ranging from media literacy to COVID-19 safety to unemployment. Grants will be awarded in two rounds in 2020 and 2021.

- [Learn about the libraries funded in Round 1](#)
- [Learn how your library can be part of Round 2](#)

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is part of ALA's longtime commitment to preparing library workers for the expanding role of libraries. The initiative is offered in partnership with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL). Questions? publicprograms@ala.org

For Applicants

- [Project guidelines](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)
- [Apply online](#)
- [Is your library eligible? Click here to find out](#)

Other Grant Opportunities:

[Apply Now: The Inaugural Peggy Barber Tribute Grant](#)

[Penguin Random House Library Award for Innovation](#)

[Apply Now: Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant](#)