FINGER LAKES LIBRARY SYSTEM

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.12 Friday, July 23, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

- From the Director
- Member Library News
- Scam Alert
- Online Learning
- Programming Ideas
- Polaris FAQ
- Awards & Grants

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: www.flls.org/2020reopenpoll/. Visit www.flls.org/member-library-service-status/ to view each library's quarantine period & hours information.

Are you interested in reading *Library Journal, School Library Journal, American Libraries* professional magazines? Contact heckerson@flls.org to get on the routing list.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

7 Spectacular Libraries You Can Explore From Your Living Room

Act to Ensure Libraries Part of Infrastructure Act

Taking Civil Legal Programming to the People

Growing Practice: Library Gardens

Great Library Displays and How Effective They Are

What Is Critical Race Theory, and Why Is It Under Attack?

This article will be discussed at SCRLC's Article Discussion Group on August 4: REGISTER!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

We have lots of updates and reminders to share with you this month:

HERO Act – A reminder that in early May, Governor Cuomo signed the Health and Essential Rights (HERO Act) into law. The HERO Act requires employers in New York State to adopt one of the model plans provided by NY State or to create their own plan that equals or exceeds the minimum standards published by the NYSDOL by August 5, 2021. Employers are also required to post, distribute, and review the plan with employees. We have sent information to our library directors and trustees about this, so please make sure your boards are working on this by the deadline.

FLLS Member Services Librarian – Heidi Eckerson joined FLLS on Monday, July 12 as our Member Services Librarian. Before her time at FLLS, Heidi was at the Newfield Library and the Durland Alternatives Library on the Cornell Campus. Heidi has been busy learning about our system, our member libraries, minimum standards, and state regulations. She will be covering youth services, summer reading, social media, collections, and will be helping me with trustee issues and referendum projects. Heidi will be heading out to our members for library visits soon, so expect to see her at your libraries over the coming months.

FLLS Board – On Wednesday, July 21, the Finger Lakes Library System Board of Trustees held their first in person board meeting since March 2020. We actually met outside in our parking lot, with our garage available in case of rain. Topics of discussion included approving our HERO Act policy, accepting the hiring of Member Services Librarian Heidi Eckerson, a mid-year budget review and discussion, and accepting the resignation of our page, Kylie McKenna, who will be leaving us on August 20 to attend library school at Syracuse University.

Trustee Handbook Book Club – This fall, the Mid-Hudson Library System, PULSIDO, the State Library and the Library Trustee Association will be starting a Trustee Handbook Book Club. Registration is now live at **https://midhudson.org/trusteebookclub/**. Each 90-minute session will be held on Zoom. Trustees are encouraged to read the focal chapter ahead of the event, to think through the questions provided, and submit their own questions in advance. Each session will include a brief introduction to the chapter topic by Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich. Ron Kirsop, Executive Director of the Pioneer Library System, and Brian Hildreth, Executive Director of the Southern Tier Library System, will moderate the questions received in advance to ensure that Jerry and Rebekkah will cover them. They will also leave time to take questions live from the audience. Each session will be recorded and archived. The archived version along with a DIY discussion toolkit for boards to use in perpetuity will be provided at the same link provided above.

I will be out of the office on vacation from Saturday, July 21 until Monday, August 9. During those two weeks, Jenny will be working Monday-Tuesday and on vacation Wednesday-Friday. Heidi will be in the office and the rest of the staff will work their regular schedules.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!

Sarah

MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

IN THE NEWS!

Tompkins County Public Library was featured on Ithaca.com:

[Public Library opens fully, hopes to retain some aspects of pandemic programming]

Have something to share? Email [jshonk@flls.org]!

[Back to Top]

SCAM ALERT!

[HEADS UP] Live Phishing Attack Uses New Infection Technique to Deliver Malware

Researchers at McAfee warn that a current phishing campaign is delivering malware via Word documents that don't contain any malicious code. When a user opens the document and enables content, the document will download an Excel file that's used to construct a malicious macro after the documents are on the system. This helps the macros bypass security filters.

"The malware arrives through a phishing email containing a Microsoft Word document as an attachment," the researchers write. "When the document is opened and macros are enabled, the Word document, in turn, downloads and opens another password-protected Microsoft Excel document.

After downloading the XLS file, the Word VBA reads the cell contents from XLS and creates a new macro for the same XLS file and writes the cell contents to XLS VBA macros as functions. Once the macros are written and ready, the Word document sets the policy in the registry to Disable Excel Macro Warning and invokes the malicious macro function from the Excel file. The Excel file now downloads the Zloader payload. The Zloader payload is then executed using rundll32[dot]exe."

Importantly, the user still has to enable macros in the first document in order for the second document to be downloaded. As a result, the infection chain can be thwarted if users are trained to never enable macros in an Office document.

"Malicious documents have been an entry point for most malware families and these attacks have been evolving their infection techniques and obfuscation, not just limiting to direct downloads of payload from VBA, but creating agents dynamically to download payload as we discussed in this blog," the researchers write. "Usage of such agents in the infection chain is not only limited to Word or Excel, but further threats may use other living off the land tools to download its payloads.

Due to security concerns, macros are disabled by default in Microsoft Office applications. We suggest it is safe to enable them only when the document received is from a trusted source."

New-school security awareness training teaches your employees to follow security best practices.

Story with link to infection chain at KnowBe4 Blog:
https://blog.knowbe4.com/phishing-campaign-uses-novel-technique-to-deliver-malware

Back to Top

ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

Alzheimer's Association: 10 Common Warning Signs of Alzheimer's (FLLS)
Tuesday, September 14, 2:00pm
More than 6 Million Americans are living with Alzheimer's Disease, and over 11 Million Americans provide unpaid care for those living with Alzheimer's or other dementias. Alzheimer's and other dementias cause changes in memory, thinking and behavior that interfere with daily life. Join us to learn about 10 Common Warning Signs and what to watch for in yourself and others. We will also share information about the Alzheimer's Association and the various free programs, services and resources available to all. A Q& A will conclude the presentation.

Librarian's Guide to Homelessness
FREE On Demand!
All library staff in Finger Lakes Library System's 33 member libraries now have access to the Librarian's Guide to Homelessness webinar series. The webinars are available through Niche Academy. Topics include—*Librarian's Guide to Homelessness Core Training, Service Animals: Your Obligations Under the ADA, Unattended Children, Traumatic Brain Injury, Fights: How to Prevent & Stop Safely, & many more*. Ryan Dowd, author of *The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness* (ALA), leads each webinar. To gain access to the webinar series, please have staff members email jshonk@flls.org. Access is limited to paid library staff only (directors, librarians, assistants, circulation staff, etc.); volunteers and trustees are not included in our subscription. Training certificates available upon request.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

CLRC: https://clrc.org/event-listing/

Programming Librarian: https://programminglibrarian.org/learn

SCRLC: Visit https://scrlc.org/Education/Events to register for upcoming events and visit https://www.youtube.com/user/scrlc1 to view recordings!

Tech-Talk (Available through SCRLC): https://www.tech-talk.com/webinars
Username & password = scrlc

WebJunction: https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/free-webinars-for-library-staff.html

Conferences & Special Programs

Fostering an Antiracist Library Culture
September 2021

Library staff at all levels within their organizations have the power—and the responsibility—to help cultivate an antiracist culture, from evaluating spaces, programs, services, and collections to examining policies and practices to reflecting on one's own implicit biases. Creating an internal culture founded on principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion is essential to building a community-centered library that meets the needs and expectations of its users.

In this course, you will learn about the concrete actions library leaders are taking to make their libraries antiracist today and in the future, and the tools that make it possible. Practical coursework, along with targeted support, will take you from theory to application, helping you to transform your library services to better meet the needs of all your patrons—and attract new ones.

You'll complete assignments to build your own equity-based initiative over 3+ weeks in an interactive online classroom environment with personal coaching from an expert in the field. In addition, you'll have access to our foundational bonus content—rich supporting materials you can explore at your own pace, including a series of webinars from Library Journal and School Library Journal contributors, readings, activities, and videos.

Certificate of Completion Provided
15 PD credits available

REGISTER

Early Bird Rate (ends July 30) = $237.24

Back to Top

PROGRAMMING IDEAS

In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the 9/11 Memorial & Museum is offering libraries a **free digital poster exhibition**, "*September 11, 2001: The Day that Changed the World*."

SPIF see email from Zoe Learner Ponterio spif@astro.cornell.edu below:

Hi Folks!

Here's a quick and easy way to help out SPIF – please subscribe to our YouTube channel: **https://tinyurl.com/SPIF-YouTube**. We just need 6 MORE subscribers and we can get a customized YouTube url that will make the channel easier to both find and promote. This will also mean more new content!

Thank you for all your support,
Zoe

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world." -Louis Pasteur

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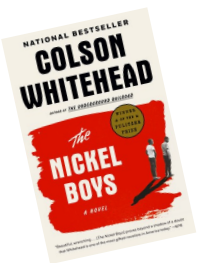


We have 2 new Adult Book Group Kits!

The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton, A20519411740

The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead, A20519411782

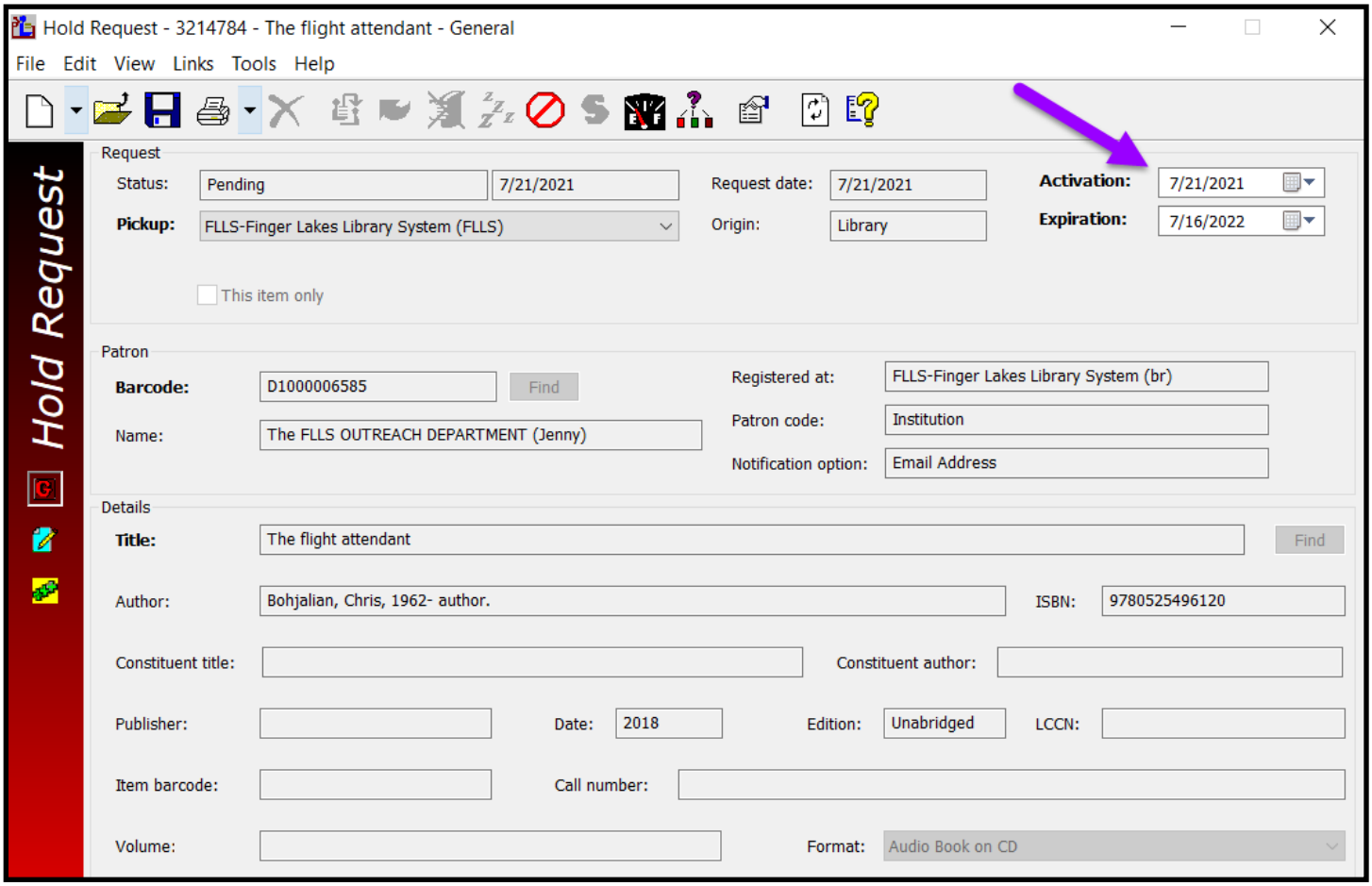
Back to Top

POLARIS FAQ

Changing Activation Dates for Holds

There are a variety of reasons for changing the activation dates on a hold request. A patron may be going on vacation and not want the item to arrive until after they are back. You also may want to put holds on an item for a library program but would like the item to ship closer to when your program takes place.

Find your item and place a hold request. From the Hold Request screen, change the **Activation** date in the upper right-hand corner to the selected date in the future. This will automatically suspend the request. Click the **Save** button. The request will be reactivated on the date that you indicated!



REMINDER: All trainings will be held virtually in 2021. 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. 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.** Please contact jshonk@flls.org, efranks@flls.org, or rhelwig@flls.org for the username and password.

Back to Top

AWARDS & GRANTS

ALA invites library workers to apply for the **Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Focus on Small and Rural Libraries**. Up to 100 libraries will be awarded in this round of grantmaking, part of ALA's longtime community engagement initiative. Library workers may apply online for grant funding by **September 16** at **ala.org/LTC**.

Library workers will complete a **free ALA e-course** on basic facilitation skills; host at least one conversation with community members on a chosen topic; and receive $3,000 to support community engagement efforts. Grant funds may cover a range of expenses, including staff time and collections and technology purchases.

Libraries that previously were awarded LTC: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries grants are eligible to apply for additional funding to expand their previously awarded projects.

Over 500 public, academic, school and tribal libraries representing 48 U.S. states have been awarded in the past year. **View the full list**.

The opportunity is open to libraries serving small and/or rural communities in the U.S. and U.S. territories. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) defines small communities as those with a legal service area population of 25,000 or less and rural communities as those more than, or equal to, five miles from an urbanized area.

Since 2014, ALA's community engagement initiative, **Libraries Transforming Communities**, has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

Construction Grants!

The portal for the New York State Public Library Construction Grants for the 2021-2022 cycle has opened. If you are interested in applying, please contact Kristi Downham at **kdownham@flls.org** to schedule a required meeting. Applications are due to the system by September 3, 2021.

Back to Top