

## MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

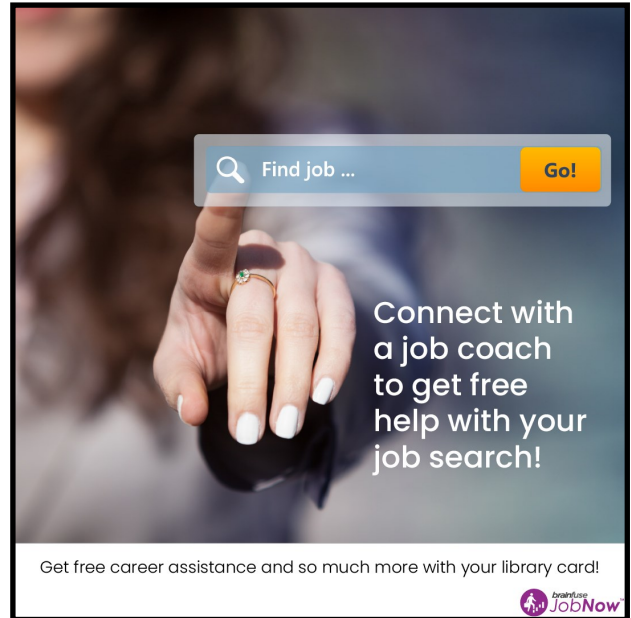
No. 21.16

Friday, October 8, 2021

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New graphics and copy now available in the [FLLS Social Media Library!](#)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

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

### LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[PLA Technology Survey Highlights Crucial Role Libraries Play in Digital Equity](#)

[Seymour Library: Library offers much more than books](#)



[Libraries as Legal Aid Connectors in Eviction Crisis](#)

[Teens Experience Librarianship Firsthand](#)

[Nine Years Ago, I Speculated that Dewey's Days Were Numbered. How Far Have We Come?](#)

[One Fine Day: New York City's Three Public Library Systems Eliminate Late Fines](#)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



Here are some updates and reminders for you:

**Staffing Changes at FLLS** - Kristi Downham will be leaving Finger Lakes Library System on October 29 to take a leadership human resources position at another area business. Kristi has been a valuable asset to not only FLLS, but to our members and trustees since she joined FLLS in 2014. From helping with state reports such as the construction aid grant and the annual report, to coordinating our Advocacy Day efforts and more, her skills in human resources has benefited us all.

I hope that you join me in wishing Kristi congratulations and best wishes on her new endeavors. I would like to thank Kristi personally for all the work she has done and helped me with since I joined FLLS.

We are choosing to re-work the current position Kristi holds with us at FLLS, and make it into a librarian position. Our job description and posting will be shared in the next week or two.

**FLLS Annual Meeting** – A reminder that the 63<sup>rd</sup> FLLS Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Friday, October 15 at 10am. Library directors and trustees were sent the agenda, 2020 minutes to review, and login information. In addition to our short business meeting, I will be giving federal, state, and FLLS specific updates for everyone during the meeting. We will be voting on two FLLS Board of Trustees nominations – one for Cayuga County and one for Cortland County. I know our annual meetings are not the same without us being able to get together in our normal fashion, but here is to hoping for 2022!

**County Budgets** – It is the start of presenting budget requests to our counties. This past Monday evening I joined fellow Tompkins County rural library directors in presenting our library budget requests. In addition to being a time to reflect on the importance of funding libraries, it is a time that we can do advocacy work with our legislators and show how our libraries are being used. I took the opportunity to speak about how libraries continue to serve our communities throughout the pandemic and the resiliency our libraries have shown. The Seneca County libraries are next in the county budget cycle and produced a fantastic video about library services that you can view [HERE](#).

**HERO Act** - The New York State Health Commissioner has officially posted the extension of the designation of COVID-19 as a “highly contagious communicable disease that presents a serious risk of harm to the public health” through October 31, 2021. A reminder to association libraries that your mandated airborne infectious disease exposure prevention plans should be activated through this date as per the NY HERO Act. If you have any questions about the HERO Act, please reach out to me.

**FLLS Closed Monday, October 11** – A reminder that the FLLS office will be closed on Monday, October 11 in observance of Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples’ Day. There will be no deliveries on Monday. On Tuesday, October 12, FLLS will do deliveries on both the North and South routes. All 33 member libraries will receive a delivery on Tuesday.

I hope everyone has a fantastic weekend!  
Sarah



# MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

## Seneca Falls Library

Looks like Miss Tara at Seneca Falls Library has been busy with some AWESOME youth programs recently! Click on one of the images to visit their Facebook page to see more fun events!

*Do you have something to share? We would LOVE to feature your library in the bulletin. Email [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org)!*





# SCAM ALERT!

## [EYE OPENER] Over 100 Million Lost to Romance/Crypto Scams in First Seven Months

People in the US lost \$133,400,000 to romance scams between January 1st and July 31st of 2021, according to the FBI. The average amount lost was in the tens of thousands of dollars. The scammers trick the victims into thinking they're investing in cryptocurrencies.

“The scammer's initial contact is typically made via dating apps and other social media sites,” the FBI says. “The scammer gains the confidence and trust of the victim—through establishing an online relationship—and then claims to have knowledge of cryptocurrency investment or trading opportunities that will result in substantial profits.

The scammer directs the victim to a fraudulent website or application for an investment opportunity. After the victim has invested an initial amount on the platform and sees an alleged profit, the scammers allow the victim to withdraw a small amount of money, further gaining the victim's trust.”

The FBI explains that once the scammer has a victim on the hook, they'll keep coming up with more reasons for the victim to send them money.

“After the successful withdrawal, the scammer instructs the victim to invest larger amounts of money and often expresses the need to ‘act fast,’” the Bureau says. “When the victim is ready to withdraw funds again, the scammers create reasons why this cannot happen. The victim is informed additional taxes or fees need paid, or the minimum account balance has not been met to allow a withdrawal.

This entices the victim to provide additional funds. Sometimes, a ‘customer service group’ gets involved, which is also part of the scam. Victims are not able to withdraw any money, and the scammers most often stop communicating with the victim after they cease to send additional funds.”

The FBI offers the following advice to help people avoid falling for these scams:

- “Never send money, trade, or invest per the advice of someone you have solely met online
- “Do not disclose your current financial status to unknown and untrusted individuals
- “Do not provide your banking information, Social Security Number, copies of your identification or passport, or any other sensitive information to anyone online or to a site you do not know is legitimate
- “If an online investment or trading site is promoting unbelievable profits, it is most likely that—unbelievable
- “Be cautious of individuals who claim to have exclusive investment opportunities and urge you to act fast”

**Blog post with links:** <https://blog.knowbe4.com/over-100000000-lost-to-romance-scams-in-seven-months>



# ONLINE LEARNING

## Upcoming Webinars

### ReadSquared New York State Fall Training

**Tuesday, October 19, 10:30am OR 2:00pm**

No signup required, simply join the webinar at

<https://join.me/READSquaredTraining> and dial

in for audio by calling 1-213-226-1066.

Conference ID: 518-509-521 #

### NYSL: Performers and Programs Webinar

**Friday, October 22, 11:00am**

The New York State Library will offer a FREE webinar on Friday, October 22 to learn all about the Performers and Programs database at <https://www.performersandprograms.com/about>.

This resource can be a very effective tool to assist with planning Summer Reading programs and other activities for the coming year! Interested but can't attend? The link to the recorded webinar will be shared on NYLINE once it's posted on the NYSL webinar page.

### METRO: Feel the Need to Weed, Part 1: Why and How

**Wednesday, October 27, 4:00pm**

Weeding library collections can be hard work, with lots of small details that come into play. This one-hour general overview of the weeding process, based on Rebecca Vnuk's book *The Weeding Handbook: A Shelf-by-Shelf Guide*, is suitable for anyone who has questions on weeding projects of all kinds.

### METRO: Feel the Need to Weed, Part 2: Communicating with Staff and the Public

**Wednesday, November 10, 4:00pm**

The optics of weeding is an often-overlooked part of the weeding process. No one wants to have to lock their dumpsters or appear on the news accused of book burning! In this hour-long session with Rebecca Vnuk, author of *The Weeding Handbook: A Shelf-by-Shelf Guide*, attendees will learn how to get your staff (or administration) thinking positively about the weeding process and learn how to best communicate with the public on the topic of weeding. The presenter will discuss weeding as overall ongoing collection management, helping avoid the need for intimidating projects that can be misconstrued.

## Conferences & Special Programs

### CRLC 2021 Annual Conference

**Friday October 22, 10:00am**

**FREE**

Opening Remarks & Keynote Address from Crystal Chen & Nicollette Davis of We Here. Other sessions include: *Hooray for Libraries! Celebrating Our Positive Impact in Our Communities*, *Meet the CNY Digital Inclusion Coalition*, *CLRC New Initiatives Grant Recipient Lightning Talks*, and *Virtual Poster Sessions*.

### Library Journal: Evaluating, Auditing and Diversifying Your Collections

**October 19 | October 26 | November 2**

**\$304.44/Attendee**

In this course, you'll learn from an outstanding group of experts as they explore key concepts essential to cultivating and promoting inclusive and equitable collections. You'll conduct a diversity audit of your collections, and learn how to include diverse books, wider perspectives, #ownvoices, and how to be both more responsive to the community you serve and more reflective of the diversity of our world. The course will cover a wide range of topics, helping teach librarians how to evaluate books and media through an inclusive lens that includes the experiences of LGBTQIA people, people of color, and ethnic, cultural, religious minorities, and more.



### Library Journal and School Library Journal: LibraryCon Live!

**November 10**

**FREE**

We're excited to present a day-long celebration of fandom lit, with panels devoted to horror, sci-fi, fantasy, and graphic novels. In addition to panels and keynotes, we're also offering fast-track learning sessions hosted by librarians and studio spotlights focusing on visual artists.



# PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

## Programming Recommendation from Lodi Whittier Library



"I would like to recommend 2 Haudenosaunee artists to everyone. I have worked with Onondagan Chris Thomas and his Smoke Dancers 3 times now and have been very impressed with them. I paid \$1800 to have them come to Lodi this summer which includes travel and fee for Chris and 4 dancers. I first heard about him from Ellen McHale, Executive Director of NY Folklore, and she recommended him highly. He does a great educational program with a lot of laughter and great engagement with the audience. It's a mix of dancing and talking-very well done.

I also brought in Ron Patterson at the same time as Chris. They have worked together frequently and are very comfortable working as a paired program. Ron is an Oneida Lacrosse Stick Maker and I have worked with him twice. I would absolutely hire him again. I paid him \$500 including travel and artist fee. He brings lots of lacrosse sticks in various stages of crafting and talks about not only the sticks but the creation story that lies behind the importance of lacrosse to the Haudenosaunee. Both times I've worked with him, I've had lacrosse enthusiasts show up with their own sticks for him to look at. I'm happy to send more info, photos, whatever anyone needs."

### CONTACT INFO:

[Cthomas8321@gmail.com](mailto:Cthomas8321@gmail.com)

315-391-4428

[Rpatterson@oneida-nation.org](mailto:Rpatterson@oneida-nation.org)

315-829-8835

**-Beth Bevars, Director of Lodi Whittier Library**  
[director@lodilibrary.net](mailto:director@lodilibrary.net)



Join us for a  
Celebration of  
Haudenosaunee Culture

Song and Social Dance with Chris  
Thomas and His Smoke Dancers  
&  
The Sacred Tradition of Lacrosse  
Stick Making with Ron Patterson

Saturday July 10th 11-1  
Free: No registration required

Lodi Whittier Library  
Main Street, Lodi  
on the Village Green

Questions? Call 607-582-6218  
or email [director@lodilibrary.net](mailto:director@lodilibrary.net)

This project is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by Auburn Public Theater's Finger Lakes Community Arts Grants Program.



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# POLARIS FAQ

## Upcoming Polaris Trainings

Please join Jenny for a series of Polaris webinars in October and November!  
All sessions will be recorded and available to view on Vimeo.  
Registration is required.

### Polaris New User Part 1

**Wednesday, October 20, 10:00am**

**[REGISTER](#)**

This training is designed to introduce Polaris to new users OR to serve as a refresher course for current users. Topics included in part 1: log on/off, check in/out, shortcuts, navigation, patron registration, and patron services.

### Polaris New User Part 2

**Wednesday, October 27, 10:00am**

**[REGISTER](#)**

This training is designed to introduce Polaris to new users OR to serve as a refresher for current users. Topics included in part 2: searching, item/bibliographic records, and holds. *It is recommended that you attend or view Polaris New User Part 1 prior to this session.*

### Polaris Item Maintenance Part 1

**Wednesday, November 10, 10:00am**

**[REGISTER](#)**

This training is designed for library staff members who enter new items into Polaris. Those in need of a refresher and newbies are both welcome! Topics included in part 1: creating Quick Bibs, creating items records, and special procedures for magazines and audio/visual materials.

### Polaris Item Maintenance Part 2

**Wednesday, November 17, 10:00am**

**[REGISTER](#)**

This training is designed for library staff members who enter new items into Polaris. Those in need of a refresher and newbies are both welcome! Topics included in part 2: creating and using record sets, different types of bulk changes, common ways to change your items from "New" to "not new", and working with templates.

**REMINDER:** All trainings will be held virtually in 2021. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings via Zoom. Email [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org) to schedule a session.

**REMINDER:** To access Polaris handouts on our website, 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](mailto:jshonk@flls.org), [efranks@flls.org](mailto:efranks@flls.org), or [rhelwig@flls.org](mailto:rhelwig@flls.org) for the username and password.



# AWARDS & GRANTS

## Friends of Tompkins County Public Library Education Grants

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 within **Tompkins County** to partially cover costs of attending professional meetings, workshops, training sessions, and conferences, and to defray the cost of course work. 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. There is a link to a PDF of the application form on the website of the Education Grants Committee: <http://www.friendsoftcpl.org/grants/education-grants/>. Completed applications should be submitted electronically to [edgrants@booksale.org](mailto:edgrants@booksale.org) by October 26, 2021. Applicants who are unable to apply electronically should contact [avolckmar@gmail.com](mailto:avolckmar@gmail.com). Grant recipients will be informed by November 10, 2021.



ALA invites libraries to apply for funding through its [American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries](#) opportunity, a grantmaking program to deliver relief to libraries recovering from the coronavirus pandemic.

With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, ALA will distribute \$2 million to help anchor libraries as strong humanities institutions as they emerge and rebuild from the coronavirus pandemic. The purpose of this emergency relief program is to assist libraries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic and require support to restore and sustain their core activities.

Up to 200 U.S. libraries of all types (e.g., public, tribal, K-12, academic, special, prison) and representing a broad range of communities will receive \$10,000 through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process. [Register for a free webinar to learn about the application.](#)

ALA will accept applications from October 5 to December 2, 2021. [Learn more and apply online.](#)

Selected libraries will receive:

- \$10,000 to support humanities functions of the libraries.
- One print copy of "[Going Virtual: Programs and Insights from a Time of Crisis](#)" by Sarah Ostman for the ALA Public Programs Office (ALA Editions, 2021)
- Online resources and support

The general goals of this ARP opportunity include to help create or preserve jobs; support or maintain general operations; create or sustain humanities programs; and implement new humanities activities or sustain existing activities. Eligible expenses include salary and benefit support for library workers engaged in humanities activities; costs related to in-person or virtual humanities programming, such as book clubs and guest lectures; and marketing and advertising to support library humanities efforts.

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