



## MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 20.7

Friday, April 17, 2020

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### Announcements & Reminders

Be patient with yourself right now and if you need help, reach out:

- New York State Emotional Support Line, 1-844-863-9314
- Crisis Textline, Text TALK to 741741

### Links to Make You Think

[The FEMA Rumor Control Fact Page \(also available in Spanish\)](#)

[National Library Week, April 19-25, 2020, celebrates libraries' resilience](#)



[Online Poetry Activities for National Poetry Month](#)

[Meet Your Meme Lords](#)

[COVID-19 Publisher Information Directory](#)

[13 Books That Have Improved My Mental Health](#)

[DC's Wonder Woman to lasso up Library Card Sign-up Month 2020](#)

# From The Director



Here are some updates on our current situation:

**NY State PAUSE**—PAUSE efforts by Governor Cuomo have been extended until May 15, 2020. All non-essential businesses, including libraries, are closed during this time period. The Governor unveiled an outline blueprint to Un-PAUSE New York on April 16. This can be viewed at: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-outlines-blueprint-un-pause-new-york>.

**NY State Budget**—As I reported in our last newsletter, the New York State Budget was passed on April 3. Library aid was cut to \$94.1 million. This equates to a 2.6% decrease to the Finger Lakes Library System 2020 budget, or just under \$50,000. During the April 15 FLLS Board of Trustees meeting, the Board and management discussed ways FLLS is currently saving money due to our building closure and suspension of ILL and delivery, as well as other cuts we will need to take in the future. The next time the State Budget can be opened by the Governor is April 30, and we expect more cuts on that day. We have been advised to prepare for a 20-25% total cut to our budget before year-end and we are planning with this figure in mind.

Both the Finger Lakes Library System Board of Trustees and I are committed to paying Finger Lakes Library System staff during the closure. All professional staff are currently working for home. Please know that we are still here for all library directors, staff, and trustees. We are prepared to help you – now more than ever – in this rapidly changing time. Our staff who can't work from home such as our pages and drivers are also still getting paid.

**Bulk Ordering of Supplies**—During our member library support group meeting on Thursday, our membership discussed having FLLS bulk purchase the supplies that we think we will all need when we eventually re-open. This would include masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, wipes, and disinfecting spray. We heard from a large amount of our members that they would like to take advantage of bulk purchasing items. FLLS staff members have been working hard on this since Thursday, making inquiries to locate possible distributors.

**Open Meetings Law Extension**—The April 7 Executive Order has extended the suspension of certain aspects of Open Meetings Law until May 7, 2020. I will be sending out an email on this separately to trustees and directors over the weekend with more information. This will also address transcription of your meetings.

**School Ballot Votes**—Unfortunately, we don't have updates on the school ballot voting dates, but the State Library is expecting them soon. The feeling on Tuesday's State call was that school districts would like the vote before June 9, 2020 to help them prepare budgets. As soon as I have more information, I will share it.

Have a safe and relaxing weekend,  
Sarah



# Member Library News

Wow! Keep up the great work! We are so impressed with the quality and quantity of virtual programs being offered by our member libraries!

## Aurora Free Library

Miss Sandy is presenting Facebook Live storytimes every week and her littlest patrons are loving it!

<p>Aurora Free Library's Video 2 days ago · 125 Views 10</p>	<p>Aurora Free Library's Video a week ago · 209 Views 15</p>	<p>Look at some of our friends enjoying Miss Sandy last week! Please tune i... a week ago · 99 Views 13</p>

**Southworth Library** was live. 5 hrs · 🌐

Watch together with friends or with a group Start

31 30 Comments 7 Shares 290 Views

## Southworth Library

Ms. Diane's Facebook Live storytime featured stories about sharks and included some very fashionable headwear! Check out the comments—patrons are thrilled!



## **Scam Alert!**

### **What You Need to Know About COVID-19 Scams**

**April 2020 Volume 15 Issue 4**

**From the desk of Michael Aliperti, MS-ISAC Chair**

Taking advantage of current events is a common tactic that cybercriminals use to fuel their malicious activities. With the global pandemic of COVID-19 and an overwhelming desire for the most current information, it can be difficult for users to ensure they are clicking on reliable resources. So far, the MS-ISAC has seen malicious activity come through just about every channel: email, social media, text and phone messages, and misleading or malicious websites.

The range of current malicious activity attempting to exploit COVID-19 worldwide varies. A few common examples include:

- Fake tests or cures. Individuals and businesses have been selling or marketing fake “cures” or “test kits” for COVID-19. These cures and test kits are unreliable, at best, and the scammers are simply taking advantage of the current pandemic to re-label products intended for other purposes. For more information on fraudulent actors and tests, check out resources from the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#).
- Illegitimate health organizations. Cyber criminals posing as affiliates to the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), doctor’s offices, and other health organizations will try to get you to click on a link, visit a website, open an attachment that is infected with malware, or share sensitive information. This malicious activity might originate as a notice that you have been infected, your COVID-19 test results came back, or as a news story about what is happening around the world.
- Malicious websites. Fake websites and applications that claim to share COVID-19 related information will actually install malware, steal your personal information, or cause other harm. In these instances, the websites and applications may claim to share news, testing results, or other resources. However, they are only seeking login credentials, bank account information, or a means to infect your devices with malware.
- Fraudulent charities. There has been an uptick in websites seeking donations for illegitimate or non-existent charitable organizations. Fake charity and donation websites will try to take advantage of one’s good will. Instead of donating the money to a good cause, these fake charities keep it for themselves.





# Online Learning

## Upcoming Webinars

### **Documenting the Present Moment**

**Tuesday, April 21, 4:00pm**

For the first time in human history, we are living through a worldwide catastrophe as a networked society. Please join us for presentations and a discussion on how web archiving can be employed to help us collectively remember this unprecedented and unique moment.

### **Pandemic Programming Ideas**

**Wednesday, April 22, 2:00pm**

Provided by Finger Lakes Library System. Jenny will discuss simple and engaging multi-generational programs that can be held online. Social media engagement will be included. Please be prepared to share your own ideas! Registration is required.

### **Coping with Distractions While Working From Home**

**Thursday, April 23, 3:00pm**

Provided by South Central Regional Library Council and available for FLLS member libraries. Are you, like many others, working from home right now? This sudden shift of work may find you feeling less focused and productive. This webinar will provide some practical tips such as:

- Suggestions from working at home with children
- Focusing through tech distractions
- Suggestions for focusing
- Prioritizing your work-at-home tasks: Deep vs Shallow work

### **Information Inequity and Other Fault Lines Revealed by the Pandemic**

**Wednesday, April 29, 4:00pm**

The epidemic revealed what many of us have been working against for decades: the most vulnerable among us are disproportionately impacted by inequitable access to information. This online panel discussion will center those in our communities who are disproportionately suffering due to the spread of the novel coronavirus. We will discuss the challenges of providing services to marginalized communities in this crisis and share ways in which we might help.

## Archived Webinars

### **Public Library Association**

**FREE & On Demand**

On-demand webinars are archived recordings of previous PLA webinars available 24/7 for viewing at your convenience. Many of PLA's on-demand webinars are free, each denoted with a green "Free!" icon below the title.

### **American Libraries Live!**

**FREE & On Demand**

Always free! Join library experts and hundreds of your colleagues for interactive discussions on pressing issues in modern librarianship. American Libraries Live webcasts cover the full spectrum of library topics and give the ALA community a chance to learn about and discuss issues it deals with daily.

### **Library 2.0 Libraries Stepping Up! Serving the Needs of Communities in Crisis Series**

**FREE & On Demand**

Watch this Mini-Conference from Library 2.0 and PCI Webinars, just sign up for a free membership. Sessions include: Self-Care during a Crisis: Breathe, Think, and Grow, Why and How To Promote Your Online Services during the Quarantine, Serving Patrons in a Crisis, and Preparing Your Digital Branch for Increased Use. After you create your account you can also access all recorded webinars for free until April 30 [here!](#)

### **New York Library Association Webinary**

**FREE & On Demand**

Always free! NYLA's archived webinars. Includes youth programming. See also, "Disaster Planning and Community Resiliency at Your Library" from 2018.

### **Remote Working: Setting Yourself and Your Teams Up for Success from LinkedIn/Lynda.com**

**FREE & On Demand**

Free for a limited time. Optimize working remotely, whether you're new to remote work or not, and whether you're leading a team or part of a team involving distributed team members. Discover how to be productive and stay connected when working from home or other remote environments.



# Census 2020 Update

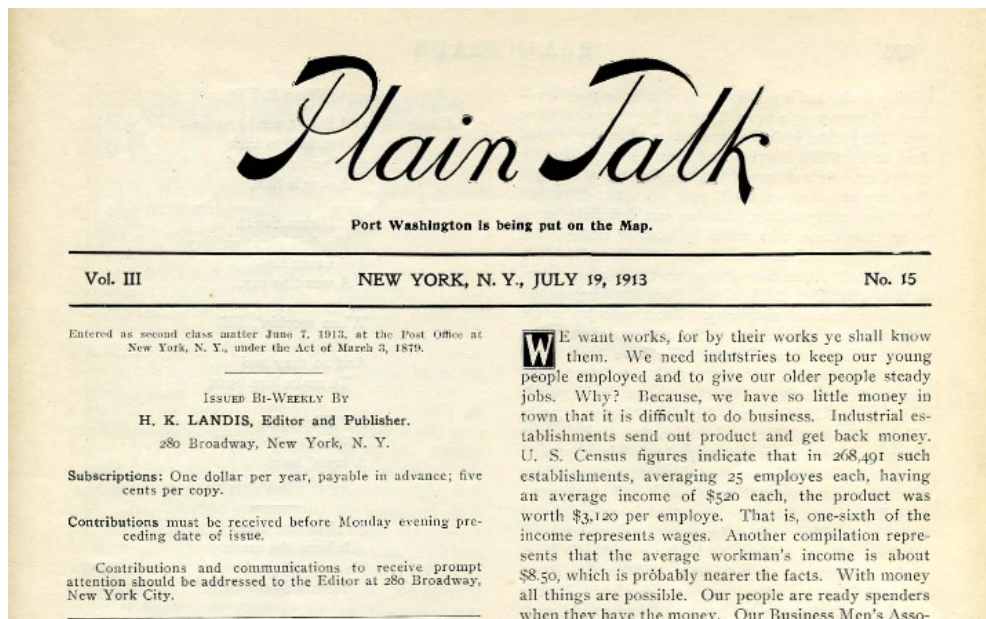
## Topic: Census 2020 Library Exhibit

NY Heritage Digital Collections has an excellent online exhibit to help individuals learn more about the history of the Census in New York.



## Making Sense of the Census in New York

The U.S. Census is the only comprehensive or "complete count" of the entire population of our country. It is the only source of data for insuring everyone has a voice in Congress. "Representative democracy" is the cornerstone on which this nation was founded, and the census is the tool used by the federal government to preserve equal representation. The qualitative aspects of this representation has historically been, and is ever changing. Explore the history of the U.S. Census in this online exhibit.



The Census is **SAFE, EASY, & IMPORTANT!** Even though our libraries are closed, we can still encourage our patrons to respond via social media!

### Resources

[FLLS Census 2020: Information for Libraries](#)

### Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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# Awards & Grants

## IMLS Announces New Stimulus Funding for Communities Across America

*\$30 Million Infusion to Provide Emergency Relief Through State Libraries*

**Washington, DC**—The Institute of Museum and Library Services today announced measures to award the first \$30 million of \$50 million [appropriated](#) to the agency in the CARES Act.

The \$30 million in the funding phase announced today will be distributed to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. territories, and the Freely Associated States based on population. The agency is allocating these grants through its most significant in-place funding vehicle for all states and territories, State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAAs), who are encouraged to use all available mechanisms to reach museum and tribal partners, as well as traditionally eligible libraries.

These funds are in addition to previously announced measures to support the urgent needs of museums, libraries, their staff, and the communities they serve. On April 6, IMLS authorized [new flexibilities](#) for its nearly 1,300 open awards in response to the impact of COVID-19.

“Together, we must address this challenge in the places most affected by coronavirus,” said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. “This pandemic has highlighted the fact that people in rural and tribal communities, as well as those in high-poverty areas or remote regions lacking access to broadband, have been disproportionately affected. We must target these funds to provide job, health, economic, and other high-impact relief, and this funding round focuses on providing efficient, urgent help to citizens across the nation.”

States and territories will be able to use the funds to expand digital network access, purchase internet accessible devices, and provide technical support services to citizens to address digital inclusion efforts and related technical support, using the following types of data to prioritize efforts:

- Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- Unemployment; and
- Broadband availability.

“The urgent expansion of broadband access and digital services enables people to connect to the health, community, government, and job information so critical today, and to the other programs and services that play an enhanced role in the current health emergency,” said Kemper. “While we are distributing these funds through State Library Administrative Agencies, we urge museums and related organizations to partner with libraries in this vital endeavor.”

The state allotment tables [can be viewed here](#); IMLS will provide additional details and anticipated timelines of this funding availability directly to SLAAs. The agency also plans to announce additional measures to aid museums and libraries, both through its current funding and that received through the CARES Act.

More information is available at [ims.gov/coronavirus](https://www.ims.gov/coronavirus). For the latest information, [subscribe](#) to IMLS news updates.

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

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