



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 20.10 Friday, May 29, 2020

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Announcements & Reminders

If your website is currently hosted through FLLS and you would like to learn more about using WordPress, please let Jenny know when you are available to attend a webinar by responding here: https://doodle.com/poll/y22hmkv7xfcw4fsa. Thanks!

Links to Make You Think

New York Public Library reveals '125 Kids Books We Love' list for big anniversary

Census timeline extended in response to COVID-19

FLLS (Re)Imagine Your Story: Summer 2020

Lessons on Working from Home

The New York State Performers & Programs Database

CDC: How COVID-19 Spreads & Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility

Reopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) Information Hub: A COVID-19 Research Project



From The Director



Here are some updates for you:

NY Forward – You may have seen a lot of news coverage about moving on from Phase 1 on Thursday night and Friday morning. However, during Governor Cuomo's Friday briefing he stated that he is allowing Phase 2 to go forward as of today. We still don't have an official placement of libraries in a

phase though, so my best recommendation is to continue to follow your county administrator guidelines. Once I hear from NYS or NYLA, I will let everyone know.

During the press briefing, it was stated that Phase 2 reopening now includes: All office based jobs (professional services, administrative support, and information technology), retail (in-store shopping, rental, repair and cleaning), real estate services (building and property management, leasing, rental and sales services), barbershops and hair salons (limited services), and motor vehicle leasing, rental and sales.

For office based jobs, guidance was given: 50% occupancy in office buildings, mandatory employee daily screenings (health questionnaire or temperature checks), masks, plexi-glass or other barriers if 6 feet cannot be maintained, signage and distance markers required in close quarters (restrooms and breakrooms), no congregation in small areas and limited in-person meetings, no meetings without social distancing, and no communal sharing of food or beverages. In-store shopping guidance was also given in detail and included employees and customer wearing face coverings.

I understand everyone's frustration with not knowing what phase libraries fall into definitively, the lack of written guidance, and the confusion last night about possibly not advancing to Phase 2 today. As we receive more information, we will continue to share it with everyone.

Stephanie Adams' Trustee Workshop through Northern New York Library Council (NNYLC) – On Friday morning attorney Stephanie "Cole" Adams hosted a re-opening workshop for trustees. Some trustees emailed me that they couldn't get into the workshop due to space limitations with NNYLC. I couldn't get in for the first ten minutes for the same reason, but was able to get in eventually. I have notes and we are also allowed to share her notes. I will be sending those out to everyone this weekend.

Resolution Wording for Re-opening – Earlier this week, the New York Alliance of Library Systems (NYALS) also met with Stephanie Adams concerning legal issues about re-opening. I asked Stephanie if she had simple wording for a board to use regarding re-opening. She provided the following:

WHEREAS on [DATE] the [NAME] library voted to close [INSERT DATE OR DETAILS]; and WHEREAS it has been determined that the [NAME] library may operate with restrictions; and WHEREAS the board has determined that, per a plan developed [METHOD*] the library may do so in accord with all required protocols for safety;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the library shall open per the attached Safety Plan.**

*Cole stated the Method could read "using the NY State template and CDC guidance."

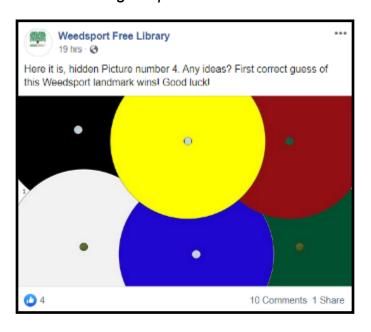
**The Safety Plan is the NY State plan for re-opening under NY Forward that you need to have on file in your building.

Boards may not be used to formal wording, please know you can adapt.

I know how hard our library directors, staff, and trustees are working to get our libraries prepared to re-open. Thank you for your hard work in these new times. I hope you have a relaxing weekend!

Member Library News

Click on each image below to view the original post on Facebook!











Scam Alert!

Microsoft Warns To Look Out For This Massive Covid-19 Excel Phishing Attack

Microsoft this week warned about a massive phishing attack that started on May 12. The campaign sends emails that look like they are from the "Johns Hopkins Center", and they have an Excel attachment that claims to be US deaths caused by the Coronavirus.

If your user opens that infected "Excel doc", the file downloads a macro and runs the NetSupport Manager Remote Admin Tool. This is actually a legit remote support product, but it can also be used for criminal purposes, specifically to download malware on a targeted device. When installed, it allows the bad guys to gain complete control over the infected machine and execute commands on it remotely.

In a series of tweets, the Microsoft Security Intelligence team outlined how this massive campaign is spreading this tool. The Excel document contains malicious macros, and will prompt the user to 'Enable Content'. Once clicked, the macros will be executed to download and install the NetSupport Manager client from a remote site.

"The hundreds of unique Excel files in this campaign use highly obfuscated formulas, but all of them connect to the same URL to download the payload. NetSupport Manager is known for being abused by attackers to gain remote access to and run commands on compromised machines," Microsoft tweeted.

Short Technical Background

In this particular attack, the NetSupport Manager client is masquerading as the legitimate Desktop Windows Manager and executable will be saved as the dwm {dot} exe file under a random % AppData% folder and launched. The bad guys will use the NetSupport Manager RAT to further compromise the user's machine by installing other malicious tools and scripts.

The NetSupport RAT used in this campaign further drops multiple components, including several .dll, .ini, and other .exe files, a VBScript, and an obfuscated PowerSploit-based PowerShell script. It connects to a C2 server, allowing attackers to send further commands, Microsoft explained.

What to Do About It

If you have any users that infected their machines you should operate under the assumption that their data has been compromised and that the threat actor attempted to steal their passwords. It is of course also possible that the threat actor used the infected machine to spread laterally throughout your network as a preparation for a full-network ransomware infection. Depending on the circumstances and your configuration, do a network-wide scan to prevent lateral penetration.

Whatever COVID ruse is being used, your users will wind up with either infected workstations at the house or in the office, giving out personal information or unleashing ransomware on your network. Give them a heads-up that especially now they need to stay on their toes with security top of mind. I would send your employees, friends and family something like the following. Feel free to copy/paste/edit: "This week, Microsoft warned about a massive phishing attack that looks like it is from Johns Hopkins University and has an Excel attachment which claims to have stats about the number of coronavirus deaths in America. If you open that attachment and click on 'Enable Content', it will download software that allows cybercriminals to take over your computer and steal confidential information. So don't open any Excel files from Johns Hopkins! NOTE: there will be more scams like this, so please remember to always Think Before You Click!"



Online Learning

Upcoming Webinars & Meetings

Covid-19 and Workplace Safety (SCRLC/FLLS) Monday, June 1, 10:00-11:00am

This webinar will cover:

- What is a virus? What is a coronavirus?
- How could coronavirus be acquired or spread at work?
- considerations for re-occupying/re-opening the physical building/facility
- How could workplace exposure to coronavirus be prevented? Hierarchy of controls for hazard reduction

Do you have specific questions, as you prepare to reopen, that you would like Ms. Brown to cover during her presentation? Enter your questions in this **Google Form**.

Libraries and COVID-19: Reimagining Programming during a Pandemic (ALA) Monday, June 1, 1:00-2:00pm

With many libraries currently closed to the public, library staff have adapted quickly to engage patrons through online programming. While some have been doing this type of programming for years, for others this is brand new. Join us in this new episode of American Libraries Live, where our expert panel will discuss how they are reimagining programming during the pandemic, tools they are using to run online programs, best practices, and how the growth of online programming is likely to have a lasting effect on library services.

Bystander Intervention Training (CRLC) Tuesday, July 14, 10:00-11:00am

This interactive training will allow participants to understand what being a bystander is and how they can serve as an active bystander. Through examples, discussions, and videos, participants will be able to develop strategies and skills to best serve their populations and be seen as an ally and support system. When registering, select South Central Regional Library Council as your ESLN.



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 ondemand webinars are free, each denoted with a green "Free!" icon below the title.

American Libraries Live!

FREE & On Demand

On-demand webinars are archived recordings of previous American Libraries Live webinars available 24/7 for viewing at your convenience. The most recent series was Libraries and COVID-19.

READSquared

FREE & On Demand

The New York State Library is pleased to offer READsquared at NO COST to public libraries statewide! READsquared is an online reading program solution. This powerful application offers customization and configuration of CSLP-themed summer reading programs and other reading and learning programs, as well as readers' advisory tools for all ages and all reading levels. Archived webinars are located in the box on the right-hand side of the screen.

Conferences

American Library Association Virtual Conference

June 24-26, 2020

ALA Virtual - Community Through Connection is an online event with educational programming, special author events, and social networking. We certainly hope that you can join us in this virtual space as we learn, grow, and most importantly, lean on our fellow librarians and library workers as we adapt and evolve in these changing times. The event format, specific content, and other details will be announced soon. Registration is now open! Use code CONNECTION to register for just \$60!!!

Programming Ideas

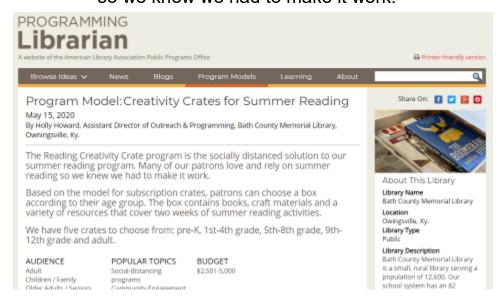
Program Model: The Great Brookie Bake-Off (Online)

"Cooking and baking competition programs have been popular at our library for years, so when COVID-19 caused the library to close, I conceived a way to do it online via Zoom in the style of Netflix's "Nailed It.""



Program Model: Creativity Crates for Summer Reading

"The Reading Creativity Crate program is the socially distanced solution to our summer reading program. Many of our patrons love and rely on summer reading so we knew we had to make it work."



Also from Programming Librarian:

Fighting 'COVID Slide': STEM Activities for Kids to Do at Home

Do you have a great idea? You can submit a program model here: https://programminglibrarian.org/submit/submit-program-ideas



Census 2020 Update

Topic: Apply for a Census Grant!

Census Shelter-in-Place Grant

As an environment that promotes information literacy and provides broadband access, libraries were perfectly positioned to assist patrons with the 2020 Census. Due to the fact that the Coronavirus pandemic coincided with the 2020 Census, libraries have had to innovate in order to complete their follow-up work promoting a complete count. ESLN, with thanks to the Charles H. Revson Foundation, is able to provide a limited number of cash grants from \$500-\$2000 to New York Libraries and Library Systems to fund this work.

These grants can be used for programs such as:

- Procuring mobile hotspots
- A marketing program using radio or internet or physical ads
- Creating a traveling hotspot-mobile

An educational campaign targeting low-response areas

Grants will be given on a rolling basis. Priority will be given to libraries and systems in low-response areas. This is a reimbursement grant; we will issue the money after grantees submit receipts.

Besides submitting receipts, you must also provide follow-up documentation to summarize the results from your initiative. This can be accomplished in one of the following ways: short presentation, a newspaper/magazine/newsletter article highlighting your census activities, social media campaign summary, or an alternative reporting tool that provides an accounting of the initiative you launched, funded by this grant.

We have limited funds to distribute for these grants. Once the money has been distributed, it is gone. First come, first serve - so apply early!

These grants are made possible by funds granted from the Charles H. Revson Foundation. The statements made and views expressed, however, are solely the responsibility of Empire State Library Network.

Submit your grant application here: https://forms.gle/DmY1NZmNHDRoDpRNA

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONCERNS?

Consulting, Resources, Training: Jenny Shonk jshonk@flls.org or 607-273-4074 x236

READ THIS: Census timeline extended in response to COVID-19

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Awards & Grants



2020-2021 Outreach Mini-Grants Awarded

Thank you to everyone who applied for our 2020-2021 Outreach Mini-Grant cycle! It was especially difficult for our COSAC team this year as there were 14 applicants and very limited available funds. We were able to fund the following projects:

Seymour Library in Auburn

\$1,066 for Caregiver Kits

Candor Free Library

\$343.18 for Art Splash

Southworth Library Association in Dryden

\$1,472 for Mobile Hotspots

Groton Public Library

\$600 for GPL Shut-ins Assistance Program

Lodi Whittier Library

\$1,175.12 for Establishing a Dyslexia Hub at Lodi Whittier Library

Peck Memorial Library in Marathon

\$1,025 for *Virtual Programming 2020*

Newfield Public Library

\$1,280 for Connecting Newfield - Mobile Hotspot Lending

Edith B. Ford Memorial Library in Ovid

\$1,680 for Summer Odyssey

Read the full announcement on our website!