FINGER LAKES LIBRARY SYSTEM

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 20.18   Friday, October 2, 2020

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Announcements & Reminders

Please do not hesitate to contact FLLS staff with your questions, comments, and concerns. Many of us are still working at home, so email is often the best way to reach us. Staff Directory: **https://www.flls.org/staff-directory/**.

Links to Make You Think

US Library of Congress launches AI tool that lets you search 16 million old newspaper pages for historical images

Rural Libraries in America: An Infographic Overview

Where It's At: The Ability Tools Blog

AllSides Media Bias Ratings

Librarians Create Digital Book Displays for Students and Patrons

Lost Languages Discovered in One of the World's Oldest Continuously Run Libraries

From The Director

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the beginning of October. This week more of our libraries have opened to allow patrons in their building, including the Coburn Free Library in Owego. Next week will see more of our libraries doing the same. At this point, the majority of our libraries are allowing either appointments or limited access to patrons, with a small number providing curbside only.

I would like to explain how our Annual Meeting will be run this year. The Finger Lakes Library System is required to hold an annual meeting each October. This meeting is for library directors, staff, volunteers and trustees, with trustees of our member libraries holding the right to vote on specific items. For the past few years, we have been rotating the meetings so that one year the meeting would be held in person in Tompkins County (typically the Country Club of Ithaca) and the next year it would take place in another county so that our membership could visit local libraries after our meeting if they wished. For example, last year our meeting was held in Tioga County at a country club in Waverly. After our meeting, our attendees were able to visit the Waverly Library to see completed renovations.

After a required business meeting that includes things such as remarks from the FLLS Board of Trustees President and voting new trustees onto the FLLS Board, we typically have a speaker that discusses a topic that hopefully resonates with the majority of our libraries. Topics have included library technology, referendum votes, and legal matters for public libraries. The speaker has been paid for by the Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library and they also help subsidize our lunch fees to keep the cost low to our members.

This year brings two challenges. Our biggest challenge is obviously the limit on mass gatherings due to the pandemic, which means that this year our annual meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. Our other challenge is the loss of the Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library funding to FLLS for 2020. Due to this loss of funding, there will be no speaker at our annual meeting this year. Instead, it will be a brief business meeting and then I will give an update about our libraries and the funding challenges facing FLLS. We are also hearing about Zoom fatigue from our membership, so we are being respectful of that and limiting the meeting to an hour this year.

Getting trustees to attend our annual meeting has sometimes been a challenge, especially if people had to drive over an hour to attend in person. We are hopeful that being able to attend virtually this year will increase our number of trustees being able to participate. This year, trustees will be asked to ratify a simple FLLS bylaw change that allows us to hold meetings like this virtually when Open Meetings Law is suspended. There are also six trustee positions for the FLLS Board that will need to be voted on by trustees. It is vital that we have trustees attend this meeting for these purposes.

We hope that you can join us virtually on Friday, October 16 at 10am for this year's meeting. Please look for emails with our agenda, Zoom link, biographical information about our nominees, and our bylaw change very soon.

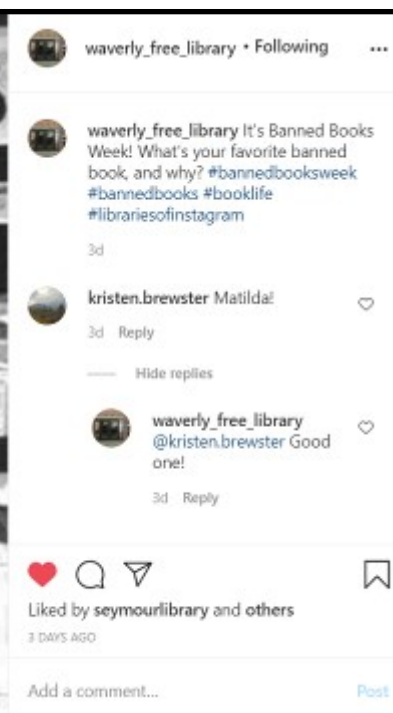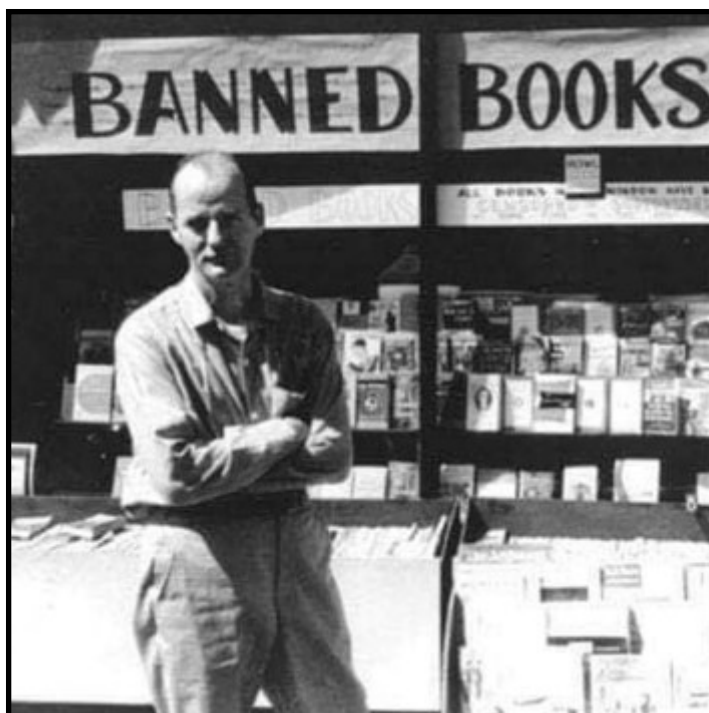I hope everyone has an enjoyable weekend!

Sarah

Member Library News

Candor Free Library
"This is our entry into the Town scarecrow contest :)" -Marcia Enright, Director

Waterloo Library and Historical Society
September 30 at 7:33 PM · ⚙

Card for October: We have started making card kits to take home in lieu of our regular in-house Card Class for adults. Kits can be picked up from the library starting October 1st. Thanks Brandi for saving this mummy from boredom by suggesting the orange base!

HAPPY HAUNTING

👍❤ 11   1 Comment 4 Shares

BANNED BOOKS

waverly_free_library · Following

waverly_free_library It's Banned Books Week! What's your favorite banned book, and why? #bannedbooksweek #bannedbooks #booklife #librariesofinstagram

3d

kristen.brewster Matilda!

3d Reply

—— Hide replies

waverly_free_library @kristen.brewster Good one!

3d Reply

Liked by seymourlibrary and others

3 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...   Post

Scam Alert!

Global Ransomware Attacks Increase by 715 Percent as Cybercriminals Capitalize on the Pandemic Opportunity

The massive rise in frequency is a signal that cybercriminals are not only finding their ransomware campaigns successful, but are also seeing increases in ransom amounts.

The goal of any business is to build a product where you make a very healthy profit margin. Once you have that, you take it to market and continue to increase the reach of your sales efforts to see both revenue and profits increase annually.

This is exactly the same mentality cybercriminal enterprises have when it comes to ransomware – if it works, send it out to more people. If they're willing to pay $1000, see if they will pay $5000, $10,000, and more. Recent data has shown that ransomware creators are doing both.

According to BitDefender's Mid-Year Threat Landscape Report 2020, the first half of 2020 saw a 7x jump in the frequency of ransomware attacks when compared to the same time in 2019. The report shows that the distribution of attacks was relatively evenly distributed across the first six months of this year.

We've also seen ransoms jump by an average of 60 percent this year, signaling that cybercriminals are keenly aware of what the havoc they've wreaked is worth to an infected organization.

According to the Bitdefender report, both the pandemic and the shift to working from home play a significant role in the success rate of attacks, as users have their defenses down and have been overwhelmed by the unprecedented change in the way we all work and live. Half of remote employees simply aren't prepared for the organization's dependence upon them to be vigilant against cyberattacks including ransomware. New school Security Awareness Training provides an effective means to not only educate users on how the bad guys go about phishing and social engineering attacks, but also on how users can become and remain vigilant while doing their job – thus, lowering the threat surface for ransomware attacks.

With such a massive increase in the amount of ransomware attacks, organizations should assume that ransomware is only going to become more prevalent, pervasive, and profitable for the bad guys.

Taken from: https://blog.knowbe4.com/global-ransomware-attacks-increase-by-715-percent-as-cybercriminals-capitalize-on-the-pandemic-opportunity

Online Learning

Upcoming Webinars & Meetings

FLLS Virtual Reading Room Webinar
Monday, October 5, 1:00-2:30pm
Librarians and teachers across the country are creating Virtual Reading Rooms to connect with their patrons and students, visit **https://bit.ly/2ZB6jj3** to view an example. This webinar will walk you through how to create and share your own virtual reading room using Google Slides. *A Google/Gmail account is required.* Registration is required. The webinar will be recorded and made available on Vimeo. Zoom access will be sent out the day before the webinar.

The ACA and Advancing LGBTQ Health
Wednesday, October 21, 2:00-3:00pm
The COVID-19 pandemic has made it critical for health information providers across the country to stay informed about the special protections and benefits health insurance coverage offers to the safety of LGBTQ community members. This free webinar will help educate public library practitioners about available health insurance coverage options, benefits, and special federal protections exclusively for LGBTQ communities during the Open Enrollment period of the Affordable Care Act (Nov. 1–Dec. 15, 2020 for plans that start Jan. 1. 2021). It will also cover Special Enrollment Period eligibility for people who have experienced lifetime events, such as losing a job or having a baby.

Finding Census Data - The Essentials
Wednesday, October 28, 10-11:15am
This presentation first explains the differences between the Decennial Census and the American Community Survey while also highlighting the idea of sample thresholds, questionnaire logic, and statistical geography. Following this, the presenter will go into the data.census.gov portal to show different ways to access and download the data. Datasets include variables on economic, social, housing and population. Additionally, we will look at the ACS website and get a short tour of topics, datasets and links available there. The presenter will stop a various times during the workshop to allow for questions.

Conferences & Special Programs

Library Journal Virtual Summit 2020: What's Next? Libraries Adapt to the New Abnormal
Tuesday, October 6, 10:30am-5:30pm
With the COVID-19 pandemic upending strategic plans across the country, libraries have had to be nimble, flexible, and collaborative on a scale and time frame like never before. Fortunately, all three of those proficiencies are in the library wheelhouse.

In this FREE, day-long, virtual event, LJ will convene leaders at every level to share their learnings from the first phase of the crisis, how they're preparing for the multiple possibilities of the medium term—and beyond—and positioning themselves to come out of the recovery strong.

NYLA Developing Leaders Program Applications Are OPEN!
Deadline is October 15
NYLA is pleased to continue the Developing Leaders Program (DLP). This nine-month program (November-June), totaling 37.5 contact hours, will help participants explore and strengthen their leadership skills.

The program will be delivered via online programs and will conclude with an in-person gathering (ideally). Participants will be divided into groups to complete a team-based project.

The DLP is designed for individuals seeking to cultivate their skills and capacities in personal and organizational leadership. The DLP focuses on 'soft-skills' that are applicable across ALL types of libraries.

Individuals with three or more years of experience working in libraries are invited to participate. An MLS is not a pre-requite for this program.

The program runs from November 2020-June 2021. Tuition is $695 and scholarships are available. Contact NYLA Executive Director, Jeremy Johannesen via **director@nyla.org** with questions.

Programming Ideas

Make & Take Craft for October
from Way Public Library in Ohio

"Cooler temperature and falling leaves have us thinking about apple cider, pumpkin spice latte, and reading by the fire! Way Library is offering a festive, fall adult take home craft to celebrate the season. "

More great ideas are available on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/ProgrammingLibrarianInterestGroup

Articles from Programming Librarian

Perfect Pitch: Publishers' Tips for Requesting an Author Visit

Tips for Facilitating a Virtual Group Conversation

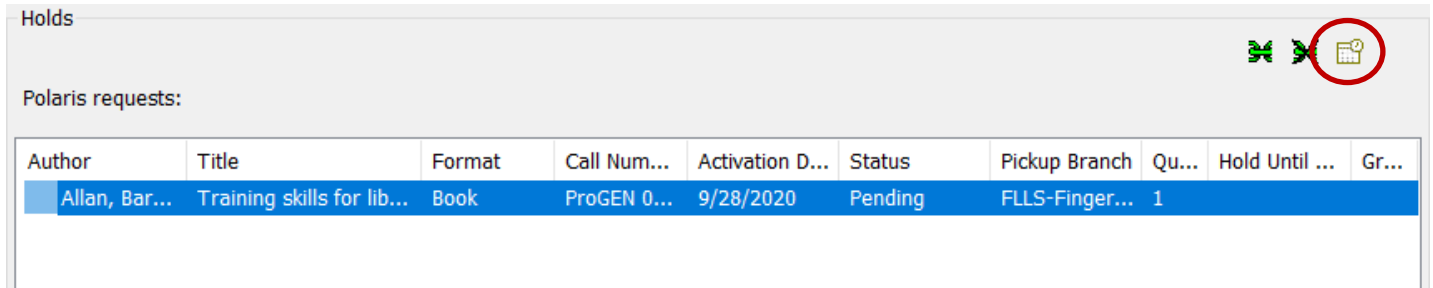### Presenting Virtual Library Programming in Uncertain Times

Polaris FAQ

Suspending Holds via Polaris

1. Search for the Patron in **Patron Status**.

2. Choose the **Requests** option on the left-side of the screen to view requests.

3. Right click on the hold request you would like to suspend and then click on **Suspend/Reactivate Request** button.
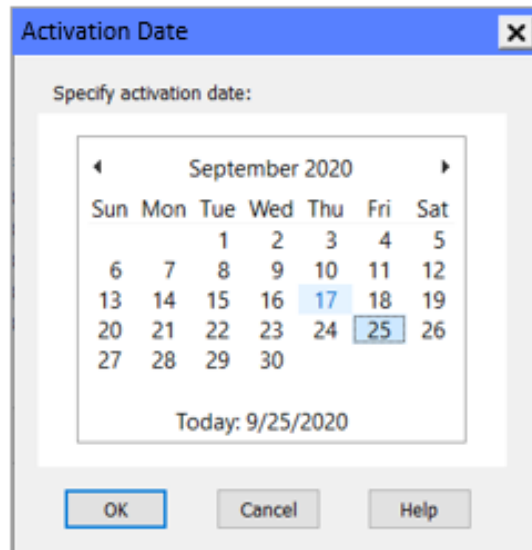
Holds										
Polaris requests:										
Author	Title	Format	Call Num...	Activation D...	Status	Pickup Branch	Qu...	Hold Until ...	Gr...
Allan, Bar...	Training skills for lib...	Book	ProGEN 0...	9/28/2020	Pending	FLLS-Finger...	1		

4. A calendar will pop up asking you to specify the new activation date. Select the appropriate date and click **OK.**

Activation Date

Specify activation date:

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Today: 9/25/2020

OK   Cancel   Help

In both PAC and in the staff client, once the hold request is reactivated, the patron appears back in the queue where they were before the hold request was suspended.

Awards & Grants

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries Grant Opportunity
Deadline: December 2, 2020

Award Information:
Libraries serving small and/or rural communities will be selected to receive an LTC community engagement implementation grant over the course of two application periods. In the first application period (September - December 2020) at least 200 libraries will be selected. The second application period (January - March 2021) will provide grants to at least 450 libraries serving small and/or rural communities.

Library staff will apply the skills learned from the LTC: Facilitation Skills for Small and Rural Libraries e-course and facilitation guide to address community need through library service. Libraries selected for funding will receive:

- $3,000 to support costs related to their community engagement project
- Professional development consisting of the LTC: Facilitation Skills for Small and Rural Libraries asynchronous e-course and facilitation guide (required for all project directors)
- A suite of online resources developed to support local programs including template press releases, social media messaging, logos, digital promotional materials and template letters that can be used to notify local leaders/officials about the library's project.
- Technical and project support from the ALA Public Programs Office throughout the grant term, such as access to:
    - ο Online learning opportunities for grantees intended to assist project directors in promoting their conversation, completing grant reporting requirements and participating in evaluation
    - ο Community of practice for project directors and staff

Eligibility:
- Applicants must have a membership with either the American Library Association OR the Association for Rural & Small Libraries.

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

- Only complete and eligible applications that are received on time will be reviewed.

Your Regional Contact is: Keturah Cappadonia, cappadoniak@stls.org