



## MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.3

Friday, February 5, 2021

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: <http://www.flls.org/2020reopenpoll/>. If you are closing your library due to a COVID-19 exposure, please also email [sglogowski@flls.org](mailto:sglogowski@flls.org).

NYS Annual Reports for Public Libraries will be due to Kristi Downham by March 1. Boards of Trustees should plan accordingly and make sure your Annual Reports are on your February board meeting agendas to be voted on by your board so that you can get your reports in on time. *At this time, no extensions will be given.*

### LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Taking on Fake News: What to Say When Patrons Repeat Things That Just Aren't True](#)



[TBBL Newsletter: Upstate Update](#)

[REALM Project Toolkit Resources](#)

[When Programming Goes Digital: The Changing Skillset of Programming Librarians](#)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



Here are some updates for you:

**Annual Reports** – We have been fielding questions from libraries about annual reports and are continuing to send out information and answers to our members. A reminder for boards to make sure to hold board meetings in February to get annual reports voted on as the due date to the system is March 1. A reminder that we are here to help in any way for both directors and boards with any annual report questions. If you need one on one help, email [kdownham@flls.org](mailto:kdownham@flls.org) to set up a time to talk.

**Advocacy Day** – We are in the process of scheduling our virtual advocacy day meetings with all our elected officials and are almost finalized. We are working with South Central Regional Library Council, Four County Library System, and Southern Tier Library System to schedule meetings with shared legislators. Kristi will be sending out more information in the coming weeks about our meetings and how to prepare for them. This is a great opportunity to voice your support for increased library aid and library construction aid to your local officials. If you can't make Advocacy Day virtually on Friday, February 26, please consider reaching out by phone or email to your representatives today.

**State Advocacy for Legislators** – On Monday, February 8 I will be taking part in a virtual advocacy talk for New York State legislative aids and legislators through NYLA. We are using this opportunity to explain the three types of library systems in NY – public, school, and regional library councils. I'm speaking on behalf of public library systems as Chair of PULISDO and will be going over how systems are set up, the role of a system and our responsibilities, and a brief explanation on how public libraries shifted to virtual efforts during the pandemic and safely re-opened their buildings this summer. Not only is this a great education opportunity for our legislators and their staff, but it also will give us the sense of what legislators will be asking during our advocacy period later this month.

**System Surveys for Re-Opening Efforts** – The State Library will be surveying public library systems on February 12 to get a sense of open hours, curbside efforts, computer availability, programming, etc. This will be occurring monthly on the second Friday for the foreseeable future so that the State Library can get a snapshot each month on what libraries across the state are doing.

Although our numbers are currently declining, as well as hospitalization, a reminder that libraries currently do not have to meet the minimum standard for open hours. While there will come a time that libraries will have to meet 80% of their minimum open hours, boards still have the flexibility to have fewer open hours. I continue to urge the State Library to give plenty of notice to libraries and boards when this occurs.

While this week was hard for deliveries due to all the snow, and many of our libraries were closed for multiple days, I hope that everyone is enjoying our better weather and warmer temperatures today!

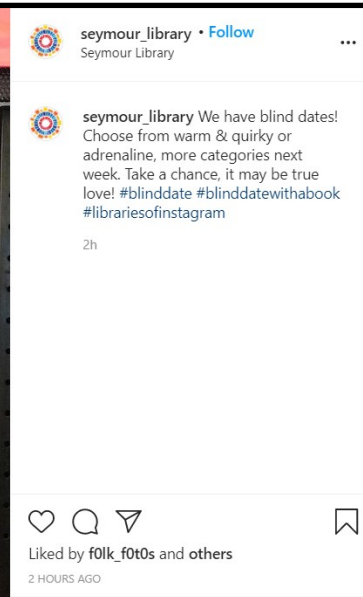
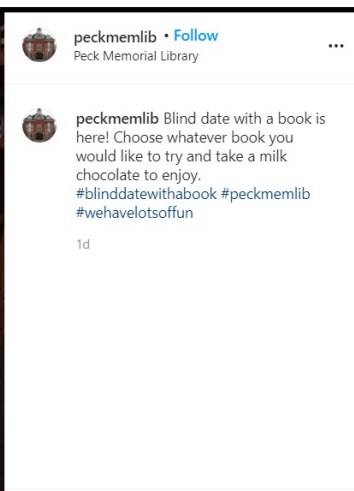
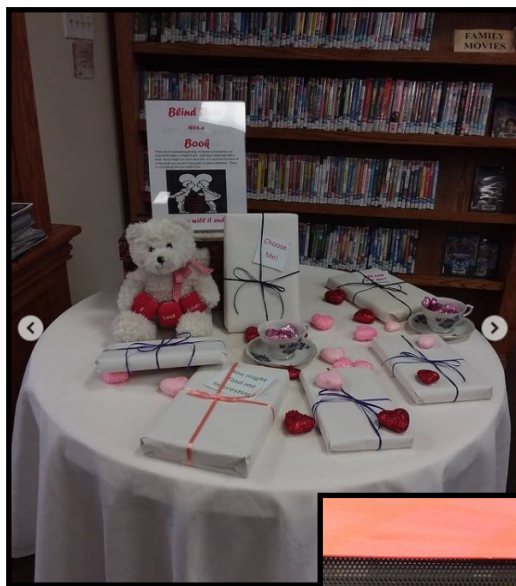
Sarah



# MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

## Blind Date with a Book!

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and our libraries are celebrating with these fun displays!



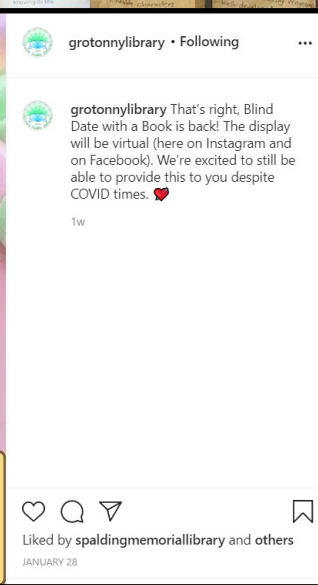
**Blind Date with a Book**  
Feb. 1- Feb. 15

- Pick a book from our virtual display based on its description.
- Call, email, or message your book's number.
- Pick up during curbside pickup hours.

607-898-5055  
infoaide1@grotonpubliclibrary.org

Check it out:  
Get a chocolate!  
Review it:  
Get an entry to win a goodie bag!





Have something to share? Email [jshonk@fills.org](mailto:jshonk@fills.org)!

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# SCAM ALERT!

## Adobe officially discontinues support for Flash Player



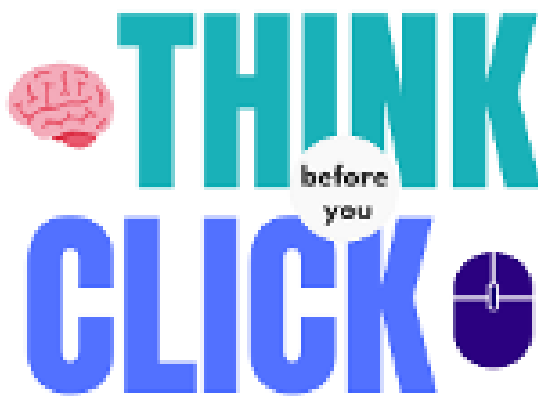
After three years of warning the world that the age of Adobe Flash Player would be coming to an end, Adobe has finally discontinued the software as of December 31st, 2020.

Support for Flash has ended in major browsers, and Adobe has begun blocking Flash content as of January 12. Flash Player itself will remain on users' systems until removed by the user or administrator — prompt removal is highly recommended, as no future updates will be issued by Adobe to fix any discovered vulnerabilities.

**It's worth noting that fake software updates are a common cybercrime tactic to get victims to install malware. Any notifications of new Flash updates should be considered to be malicious going forward.**

For more information from Adobe, visit:

<https://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/end-of-life.html>







# ONLINE LEARNING

## Upcoming Meetings

### **FLLS Member Library Support Group Wednesday, February 10, 10:00am**

This meeting is open to anyone that works in a member library. We will discuss programming and more. Please email [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org) for Zoom access or to add an item to the agenda. Notes will be distributed after the meeting.

### **FLLS Director's Meeting Wednesday, February 17, 2:00pm**

This meeting is for directors only. Notes will be distributed after the meeting.

### **FLLS Social Justice Book Club Wednesday, February 17, 4:00pm**

We will discuss *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Contact [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org) to join.

### **FALCONS Meeting Thursday, February 18, 9:30am**

FALCONS = Finger Lakes Automated Library Consortium.

### **NYLA Library Advocacy Day (Virtual) Friday, February 26**

The NYLA website is now live! Kristi will be sending out more information soon!

## Upcoming Webinars

### **Virtual and in-person library programming for parents and infants: Who, how, what, when, where, and why? (NYS)**

**Tuesday, March 2, 1:30pm**

A Ready to Read at New York Libraries early literacy webinar presented by Betsy Diamant-Cohen (Mother Goose on the Loose, LLC). Programming for parents with infants in the library is a relatively new phenomenon; virtual programming for this population is even newer! Why is it important to present programs for children this young? What are the important factors to take into account when programming for these dynamic duos? What type of activities work best and how can they be adapted virtually?

## Upcoming Webinars Cont...

### **A Tour of the Census Website (SCRLC) Friday, March 12, 10:00am**

In this live presentation, a "tasting" of the Census website includes a look at history, Census Library, Census Academy, Surveys, various data portals, the American Community Survey (ACS) website and [data.census.gov](http://data.census.gov).

### **Why Diverse Books Matter (CLRC) Thursday, March 11, 3:00pm**

During this session, Dr. Aronson will share her research and thinking about why racially/culturally diverse books matter, including her research on this topic. She will also share information about the Diverse BookFinder and its Collection Analysis Tool (CAT) and be available to answer questions about how to utilize CAT reports to enhance collection development.

### **Tips and Tricks – Giving a Presentation and Engaging Your Audience (CLRC) Wednesday, March 24, 10:00am**

Have you been asked to give a presentation and do not know how to prepare for it? Have you given a presentation and are unsatisfied with how it went? Are you interested in ideas on how to engage the audience? If yes, then this webinar is for you! Come and learn how to think about your online and face-to-face presentations and training sessions. You will leave with new skills, including a few easy tips and tricks, in effective presentation design and powerful workshop delivery.

## LOOKING FOR MORE?

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

METRO: <https://metro.org/events/>

SCRLC: <https://scrlc.org/Education/Events>

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



# PROGRAMMING IDEAS

## Leaving Our Fingerprints: A People's History of COVID-19

FLLS has partnered with the Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) for a new project, **Leaving Our Fingerprints: A People's History of COVID-19**. Erica Freudenberger and Jack Scott at SALS have developed a public website where people can share their story of the COVID-19 pandemic. Surveys have been created to collect responses that will be uploaded to the website and placed into special exhibits. Respondents can include text and images. All information collected will be anonymous. Respondents can choose to answer all or some of the questions posed. Several NYS library systems are currently participating and NYS will archive the website.

We have a special survey just for our system, which can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B6RMHDQ> or <https://tinyurl.com/shareyourstory-flls>. The survey is available NOW and the website will have a public launch at the end of this month. This survey was designed for adults; a special survey for children and teens is being developed.

Resources including an overview, social media graphics (see below), and social media templates can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jCpLGijEXaQaie2DTLwml2fOr7MRoOjk?usp=sharing>. For more information about this project, please contact [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org).

**Sample Copy for Social Media:** *Help make history by sharing your story of the COVID-19 pandemic. Just as we relied on information about the Spanish Flu epidemic in 1917-1918 to inform our response to COVID-19, future generations may benefit from understanding what we experienced. By collecting your stories, we become witnesses-to-history, providing insight into daily life during this global pandemic and adding to the historic record.*

*How can you get involved? Please take some time to fill out the form at <https://tinyurl.com/shareyourstory-flls> and feel free to share with your friends, family members, and neighbors — the more people participate, the better understanding we'll have of the impact of COVID-19.*





# POLARIS FAQ

## Innovative Documentation & Videos

Innovative has opened up their documentation and training/informational videos sites. The links to those two sites are below:

<https://vimeopro.com/innovativeiii/webinars>

<https://documentation.iii.com/product-documentation/polaris2.php>



**REMINDER:** All trainings will be held virtually until the pandemic ends. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings on Zoom. Email [jshonk@flls.org](mailto: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](mailto:jshonk@flls.org), [efranks@flls.org](mailto:efranks@flls.org), or [rhelwig@flls.org](mailto:rhelwig@flls.org) for the username and password.

PAC brochures have also been updated, visit <https://www.flls.org/brochures/> and scroll down to **Library Catalog Brochures**.



# AWARDS & GRANTS

## Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus On Small and Rural Libraries

***Round 2 Now Open!***



The American Library Association (ALA) invites libraries in small and rural communities to apply for grant funding to help them address issues of concern in their communities.

Up to 650 U.S. libraries in small and rural communities will receive \$3,000 each to tackle issues ranging from media literacy to COVID-19 safety to unemployment. Grants will be awarded in two rounds in 2020 and 2021.

[Learn about the libraries funded in Round 1](#)

[Learn how your library can be part of Round 2](#)

*Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is part of ALA's longtime commitment to preparing library workers for the expanding role of libraries. The initiative is offered in partnership with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL). Questions? [Contact ALA's Public Programs Office.](#)*

For Applicants

- [Project guidelines](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)
- [Apply online](#)
- [Is your library eligible? Click here to find out](#)
- [Read example proposals from Round 1](#)

**Schedule a Consultation:** The ALA Public Programs Office staff is here to support you in applying for the LTC: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries grant! Please [fill out the google form to request a 20-minute phone consultation](#). ALA staff will reach out to schedule an appointment based on your preferences and team availability.

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