



FINGER LAKES
LIBRARY SYSTEM



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.7

Friday, April 2, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

You can click on each link below to quickly navigate to your favorite bulletin sections!

- [From the Director](#)
- [Member Library News](#)
- [Scam Alert](#)
- [Online Learning](#)
- [Programming Ideas](#)
- [Polaris FAQ](#)
- [Awards & Grants](#)



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.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[ALA Executive Board Supports APALA in Recognizing and Condemning Ongoing anti-Asian Hate Crimes](#)



[Most People Don't Actively Seek to Share Fake News](#)

[Evaluating Your Virtual Programs](#)

[Public Programming with Virtual Murder Mysteries](#)

[Love Letters to Libraries: Asking Authors to Advocate](#)

[Book returned to Nebraska library was 50 years overdue](#)

Did you miss an issue? Check <https://www.flls.org/bulletin>
for archived Weekly Bulletins

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Here are some updates for you:

NY State Budget – As this newsletter goes out, we still don't have a New York State Budget. Originally due by April 1st, budget talks are still ongoing and not finalized. As we are all aware, our Governor is dealing with legal issues on a personal level and the State is also trying to work with a large influx of federal money. We now expect a finalized budget either over the weekend or early next week.

Even though we are in the final days of having a budget, library advocacy efforts are still vitally needed. NYLA sent out an advocacy message on Thursday that they had received troubling news that the proposed funding for libraries in the one house budgets were under serious threat, with a possibility of a cut in funding from last year's enacted budget. They are urging people to take part in a phone-a-thon and have set up a very easy way for everyone to participate.

NYLA has a simple online form that you fill out through their online advocacy center and once you fill out the short form, it will provide you with both all the phone numbers you need to call and a short script to read to each office. There are five phone calls to make – each of your representatives (Senate and Assembly), the Assembly Speaker, the Senate Majority Leader and to the Governor. You can find the form [here](#). I made the calls yesterday and it was very easy to do with the online form provided by NYLA.

FLLS Building – Two weeks ago, the compressor in our heating system shorted out, resulting in a shutdown of our heating system. Since that Friday, our building has been without heat. Luckily our compressor was under warranty, and after being originally told that there could be a delay due to a shortage of parts due to COVID, we were notified that the new compressor has arrived. We are hoping for an installation starting around April 7.

Until then, the majority of our staff are working from home due to the cold temperatures in our building. Email is the best way to contact staff. Thankfully our sorting room is on a different compressor and our pages have heat and are able to still pack our deliveries every day.

National Library Week – April 4-10 is National Library Week. I want to take the time to thank all of our library workers who have been going above and beyond over the past year. From expanding your services and creating curbside or contactless pickup and virtual storytimes, to making sure the needs of your patrons and communities were still met even when our buildings were closed, our library staff and trustees continue to work harder than ever. The theme for National Library Week this year is "Welcome to Your Library" and promotes the idea that libraries extend beyond the four walls of a building and that everyone is welcome to use their services.

I hope you have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

Sarah



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS



IN THE NEWS! Phillips Free Library in Homer was featured on LocalSYR.com:

[Cortland County library is seeking your COVID-19 stories to include in their digital archive](#)



Have something to share?
Email jshonk@flls.org!

[Back to Top](#)



SCAM ALERT!

[EYE OPENER]

Mom Charged in Deepfake Cheerleading Plot

Raffaela Marie Spone, a 50-year-old mom from Pennsylvania, has been arrested after allegedly leveraging deepfake technology to target several of her daughter's cheerleading rivals.

The incident shows how dangerous deepfake technology is, as Spone used it to tarnish the girls' reputations. Spone allegedly created deepfake videos that showed the girls drinking, smoking, and naked. The videos were then sent to the cheerleaders' coach in an attempt to get them kicked off the team.

The altered content was allegedly pulled from the girls' social media accounts. According to the Hilltown Township Police Department, Spone was previously under investigation after a minor reported being harassed via text message.

Additional girls came forward, experiencing the same thing and part of the same cheerleading team, the Victory Vipers.

Spone allegedly also sent the deepfake videos to the girls via text, along with horrific messages telling them to engage in self-harm. Police arrested Stone after discovering evidence on her phone linking her to the texts and images.

Deepfakes are a looming threat

We need to inoculate our employees against this type of social engineering. KnowBe4 is proud to have recently a training module that trains your users to Spot and Stop the Spread of Disinformation.

This new module covers the red flags that show an email or social media message might be propaganda, and trains the end user to apply critical thinking before they forward damaging disinformation.

Blog post with links:

<https://blog.knowbe4.com/mom-charged-in-deepfake-cheerleading-plot>





ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

NYLA Briefinar: Get To Know Hunger Solutions New York

Monday, April 5, 2:00pm

For the 2.2 million people living in New York households that struggle against hunger, COVID-19 presents unique challenges. Hunger Solutions New York is working to provide updates that can help schools, community organizations, and families mitigate the projected impact of the pandemic on [food insecurity in their area](#). Join us for an open conversation about ways libraries can help alleviate hunger, from helping with outreach to serving [summer meals](#), and helping families connect with [WIC](#), [SNAP](#) and [other nutrition programs](#). Bring your questions, chat with peers, and learn about new resources and flexibilities available to help connect kids and families with the food they need. Not sure if you can make it? Register anyway to receive follow-up resources. NYLA Briefinars are only 30 minutes long!

Trauma-Informed Librarianship – What Is It and What Can It Look Like? (CLRC)

Wednesday, May 5, 4:00pm

Trauma-informed care has been used more extensively in psychotherapy and social work settings, however, it can also have a practical application in any setting, personal or professional. I think this is especially relevant for libraries where we work with patrons and, at times, in large organizations with many moving parts. In this talk, we will define trauma and how it affects the nervous system, discuss some approaches to trauma-informed care, and imagine ways it can be applied to your library setting.

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>

Conferences & Special Programs



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Voice of the Library Community

NYLA Social Responsibilities & Libraries: Speaker Series

Free Registration and CE credits!

The Social Responsibilities Group of NYLA's Developing Leaders Program is proud to sponsor a series of 5 webinars exploring how libraries of all types and sizes embody ALA's definition of the core value: Social Responsibility. Each session looks at a particular aspect of how Social Responsibility has a role in librarianship; themes include digital equity, collection development, library programs, and making public statements on current events.

Register for a single session or attend the full series. Each panel is one hour and earns attendees 1 Continuing Education (CE) credit. Attendance and CE credits are free!

Please register in advance, and come with questions.

Sessions:

- April 12, 11:00am—*Addressing Digital Equity: Theory and Practice*
- April 19, 3:00pm—*Building a Socially Responsible Collection*
- April 26, 11:00am—*Empowering Your Community*
- May 3, 2:00pm—*Diverse Views and Discussions in Library Programs*
- May 10, 11:00am—*Directors Decide: Public Statements After George Floyd's Death*

Register for one or more sessions:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErde2qrj8oGdYCrPD2Oq8db2OH1n84Xp5s>



PROGRAMMING IDEAS







National Library Week 2021



Celebrate at your library April 4-7! Resources for social media are available through ALA and NYLA, see below! The theme is “Welcome to Your Library.”

ALA resources for social media and more can be found here:
<http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>.

NYLA will also be celebrating on social media, see calendar below. Their resources, including a social media toolkit, can be found here:
<http://bit.ly/2021LibraryWeek>.

<div> #NYLibraryWeek Calendar Visit NYLA's #NYLibraryWeek Campaign Page: http://bit.ly/2021LibraryWeek</div>			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
#OnceUponALibrarian We will be sharing stories from librarians across New York State of why they joined the librarian profession! From academic librarians to youth services librarians – every librarian has a story behind their profession. Share a short video or a picture holding a sign with the hashtag on your social media pages!	#NYLibraryWorkersDay Do you have an outstanding library worker who goes above and beyond? We want YOU to highlight your library workers using the hashtag #NYLibraryWorkersDay Share a photo, a short video thanking them, or your favorite story about them using our hashtag!	#NYLibraryOutreachDay Over the past year, our libraries have shown up for their communities in innovative and reimagined ways. We want YOU to reflect on the past year and tell us how your library adapted to the new normal. Whether you introduced new programming or services - we want to hear from you and make sure to use our hashtag!	#NYLibraryAdvocate On the last day of #NYLibraryWeek, we want YOU to take action and connect with your legislators about why you are a #NYLibraryAdvocate! Share a short video, a photo holding a sign with our hashtag or you wearing your NYLA Library Advocate face mask or sunglasses on your social media pages!
<div>  @NYLA1890   @NYLA_1890  nyla.org</div>			



POLARIS FAQ

Blocks at Check Out

If there is a block on the patron's record, it will display during Check Out. Check with your supervisor for specific library policies. **There will be important information displayed, please do not surpass blocks without reading them!**

- If the patron owes money, select **Patron Status** and collect the fine.
- If the patron has overdue items, select **Patron Status** and renew the items, if possible. Remember that items belonging to other libraries cannot be renewed without permission and items on hold for someone else CANNOT be renewed.
- If the patron has a hold waiting to be picked up, check the item out to the patron.
- If the Patron's card has expired, select **Patron Registration** and update the registration date. Remember to delete the block from the patron's account in the Patron Status **General** page.
- It may notify you that you are checking out an ILL. Follow the procedures listed on **Assigning a Different Loan Period**, i.e. creating a special due date.

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 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, efranks@flls.org, or rhelwig@flls.org for the username and password.



AWARDS & GRANTS



Do you have an idea for an outreach project but lack funding? Member libraries in our service area can apply for an Outreach Mini-Grant.

Applications are **OPEN** for the 2021-2022 grant cycle:
[2021-2022 Outreach Mini-Grant Application](#)

Please enter your information in the Word document and then save it as a PDF before emailing. **\$10,000 (total) is available, contingent upon funding from NYS.** You may apply for a minimum award of \$250, Max: \$2,500. Applications are due **April 23, 2021** and recipients will be announced on May 12, 2021.

Have a question? Stuck on an idea? Read the [Outreach Mini-Grant FAQs and Tips](#) document or email Jenny Shonk at jshonk@flls.org.

REMINDER!

Final reports for the 2020-2021 grant cycle are due June 30, 2021:
[2020-2021 Outreach Mini Grant Final Report Form](#)