

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.13

Friday, August 27, 2021

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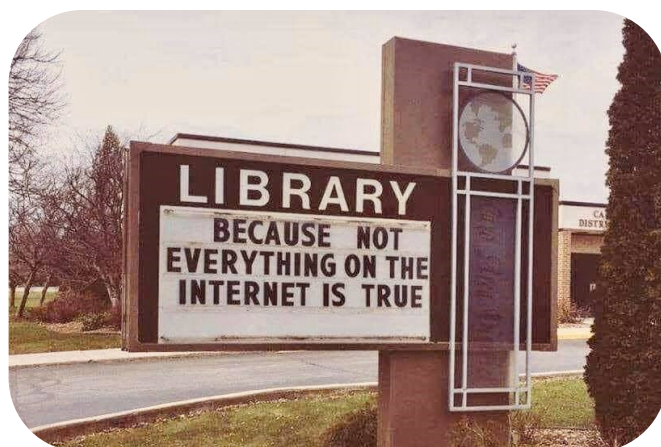


Image Text: LIBRARY. Because not everything on the internet is true. Original post can be found: <https://bit.ly/3jkySM5>

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: www.fls.org/2020reopenpoll/. Visit www.fls.org/member-library-service-status/ to view each library's quarantine period & hours information.

FLLS Staff Out-of-Office: Deb 8/30-9/13, Eric 8/30-9/10, Diana 8/30-9/2, and Jenny/Kristi/Rex/Tom 9/3.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Afro Latinx children's books are still too rare. These four authors are trying to change that](#)



[Message to NYLA Membership from President Beth Merkle](#)

[Calculating the True Value of Library Labor](#)

[Uptick in First Amendment Audits](#)

[WATCH: Answering your questions on critical race theory \(PBS\)](#)

[Communities for Immunity: Museums & Libraries as Trusted Community Partners](#)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

We have many things to update you on with this newsletter. While summer reading is ending and school is starting, we also are seeing a noticeable increase in our infection rates and hospitalizations in our service area. Here is some information and reminders:



NY State – A reminder was sent to directors this week after multiple questions due to rising COVID numbers in our area. Currently, there is no statewide pandemic response or plan and there is no statewide mandate on mask-wearing. Instead, the State is asking local governments (i.e. counties or county health departments) to determine if a local mask mandate is advisable based on local infection rates. A reminder that libraries can determine their own mask policies or recommendations for patrons during use of your buildings. This should be clearly stated in your policies, signage, and on your website or social media to make it easier for patrons to know what to expect when using your libraries.

Open Meetings Law is in effect with no suspensions. I've received a large amount of trustee questions on this. Current guidance is to follow Open Meetings Law, which you can review at <https://opengovernment.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/09/open-meeting-law.pdf>. If a trustee feels uncomfortable meeting in person, please follow the guidance with publishing the address the trustee will be at (even if this is the personal home of the trustee) in your meeting agenda. If a trustee cannot take part in the meeting either in person or electronically so that they are visible, that trustee cannot vote. For example, if a trustee wants to phone into a board meeting, that trustee can listen to the conversation and board meeting, but cannot vote or be counted toward your board's quorum. I know this is an uncomfortable time for both libraries and boards. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or email me with your questions or concerns.

NYLA – One August 5, the Executive Director of NYLA, Jeremy Johannesen, resigned from his position during a NYLA Council meeting. During that meeting, the Executive Committee of NYLA Council also resigned except for the incoming President. This is a time of restructuring and growth for the organization.

On Wednesday, August 25, I was selected to serve on a newly established NYLA Governance Task Force. This task force will have three tasks: 1. Review the existing governance structure (by-laws, policies) and other documentation that it deems relevant and recommend amendments, updates, and other changes for review and approval of NYLA Council and/or NYLA membership as appropriate. 2. Review and recommend changes to Council of its roles and responsibilities for review and approval of NYLA Council. 3. Recommend changes to the Executive Director's job description for review and approval of NYLA Council. We have short time frame to work with but I'm confident that we will be able to help NYLA with our recommendations.

Plan of Service – A very big thank you to our libraries for participating in focus groups to help guide our upcoming plan of service, or five year plan. Your input and suggestions has helped us understand what is important to our members and give us some great ideas for new avenues to work with you. Thank you!

I hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Please remember that if anything changes with state guidance or recommendations, we will be letting you know immediately.

Sarah



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS



“**Fair Haven Public Library** held Speak Like a Pirate/Pirate Day with Captain Rick pirate stories program on Saturday 8/21/21 with 78 children and 58 adults in attendance, the program was held at the bandstand directly in front of the library entrance.” - Director Allen Tompkins



Seneca County Libraries worked with RTS (Regional Transport Services) to put ads in bus stops for a nominal fee!



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

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SCAM ALERT!

SECURITY HINTS & TIPS: Holiday and Seasonal Scams

With the ever-growing popularity of online shopping and online communications, you should always have your guard up in the cyberworld. Criminals will use any situation to their advantage—especially when it comes to annual holidays. Below you'll find a few examples of commonly used seasonal and holiday scams, and what you can do to protect yourself.

Fake Shipping Notifications

End of the year holidays invite a greater likelihood of this common phishing attack, but this is a scam you must be cautious of all year long. Scammers send fake notifications that appear to come from postal service companies. The emails include dangerous links that, if clicked, could install malware on your computer or take you to a fake login page where your credentials will be stolen.

To check the legitimacy of these types of claims, always login to your online account or service through your browser—not through links in unexpected emails.

Travel Deals and Offers

Scammers know that their potential victims travel for holidays throughout the year. Cybercriminals send emails offering fake travel deals from well-known travel sites. They're even known to create phony websites for cheap hotels and flights so they can rob you of your money.

When something seems too good to be true, it probably is. Never click on links in unexpected emails. Before booking through an unfamiliar service, do your research and ensure the company is legitimate.

Social Media Deals and Sales

All social media advertisements are not created equal. A "paid advertisement" may seem trustworthy, but be warned: Anyone can pay to put an ad on social media. During holidays and popular shopping seasons, fraudsters buy ads that offer deals for items that you're more-than-likely interested in—considering social media ads target the buyer market. The ads typically contain phishing links that lead to fraudulent websites where they will steal your credit card data. Even if the malicious ad is reported and removed, the bad guys typically only need one victim to fall for their trick to make it worth their investment.

Always hover over links and URLs before clicking to check whether the URL will take you to a dangerous or unexpected site. If a social media ad appears to be from a company you're familiar with, check the company's website instead of clicking on links from the ad.



ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

METRO: Navigating Productivity Culture

Wednesday, September 1, 4:00pm

We've been navigating productivity culture since far before the pandemic started. And the abrupt transition meant, for many of us, an increase in working hours, as time set aside for commuting was funneled into our daily work. We've had to alter our way of working throughout this time whilst also facing the necessary demands for change within our society. Now that many libraries and archives are reopening their doors, staff are shifting to acclimate to working, meeting, assisting patrons, providing emotional labor and support and so much else again. April Hathcock (Director of Scholarly Communications and Information Policy) and Kimberly Springer (Curator at the Oral History Archives of Columbia) are here to talk about it. Join us for a panel discussion, where we'll share how our relationship to productivity has changed and how productivity culture can inherently be toxic in nature.

FLLS: Alzheimer's Association: 10 Common Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Tuesday, September 14, 2:00pm

Join us to learn about 10 Common Warning Signs and what to watch for in yourself and others. We will also share information about the Alzheimer's Association and the various free programs, services and resources available to all. Q&A included!

CLRC: Creating Cultures of Radical Vulnerability and Empathy in Libraries

Tuesday, September 14, 3:00pm

Through the lens of trauma-informed librarianship, this webinar will explore how librarians and library workers can create library cultures that center radical vulnerability and empathy as a pathway towards collective wellness, healing, and authenticity. We'll unpack how LIS work cultures normalize and perpetuate ableism, pushing library workers and librarians who are survivors and/or have experienced trauma out of the field. As a community, we will learn about and discuss how we can be more intentional, authentic, and supportive of ourselves and our colleagues/comrades through practicing radical vulnerability and empathy.

Librarian's Guide to Homelessness FREE On Demand!

To gain access to the webinar series,
please have staff members email
jshonk@flls.org.

Conferences & Special Programs

WNYLRC INTERSECT 2021

Resilience, Renewal, and Beyond

Friday, October 1

\$20.21 per person

The purpose of Intersect is to facilitate a culture of co-learning among librarians and other interested professionals in the region by bringing people together to network and share ideas in an interactive, engaging, informal setting where participants determine the content. The full program and session schedule are being finalized and will be sent out soon. Presentation topics will be centered around the theme of Resilience, Renewal, and Beyond, including, but not limited to:

- Building community
- Adaptations in library services
- Sustainability
- Self-advocacy
- Activism
- Reskilling, upskilling, new skilling
- Personal or organizational struggles
- Workplace communication/staff morale

Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS) Annual Conference

Jazz Up Your Outreach

October 11-15

\$84 per person, \$69 per person for groups of 3+

The conference will be held via the award-winning Whova App, which can be accessed via desktop or mobile device. "I absolutely recommend attending the 2021 virtual ABOS Conference. Last year, I came away with at least 8 new ideas that have already been incorporated into our day-to-day outreach adventures!" - Lynda Spraner, Outreach Services Assistant, St. Charles Public Library, Illinois.

Library Journal Fall Summit

Don't Call It a Comeback: Libraries @ the Center of Community Recovery

Thursday, October 21

FREE

As communities across the country struggle to stay open during the protracted pandemic, they continue to look to libraries to help drive their economic and social recovery; provide essential services, convene crucial conversations about equity, and to help patrons find their feet amid changing circumstances. Join Library Journal on October 21 for a free, daylong virtual event to hear from public library leaders and staff who are reinventing their services and building on their best COVID-inspired innovations to better connect with and serve patrons and help their communities recover.

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PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH



Check out this **NEW Toolkit** from the American Library Association Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table!

“This Toolkit is designed to help library staff better understand gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) library users, how to best serve their needs, and how to manage challenges that often arise.

Acceptance of GLBT people in mainstream American society has been steadily growing. However, library materials, programs, and displays related to sexual orientation and gender identity still cause controversy. The fear of a challenge may cause some librarians to be deterred from buying materials or including services for GLBT people in their service profile; failing to provide these resources in ways that can be easily used by vulnerable populations are forms of censorship and discrimination.

Every community has a GLBT population and GLBT families. The job of librarians, whether serving adults, teens, children, students, parents, or others, is to make libraries welcoming and open to all.”

SRP Survey

It's time for the 2021 Summer Reading Final Evaluation survey. The survey, along with a PDF version can be found on our [website](#). Please complete and submit your survey by **Friday, September 24**. If you have any questions please reach out to Heidi heckerson@flls.org.

SWANK Movies

If your library has a Swank movie license here's a new tool to help you promote your screenings: [Swank Promo Builder](#). You can use the images on your website and on in-house posters. Swank recommends not using images on your social media accounts. Check out this list of [FAQs](#) about the do's and don'ts of their service.

Goodnight, OverDrive. Hello, Libby!

OverDrive is [phasing out](#) its legacy OverDrive app in **February 2022** and encouraging users to download the Libby app.



POLARIS FAQ

Hold Status Explanations in Patron Status

See below for a table with hold status explanations that appear in Patron Status and possible actions staff could take to resolve issues.

Status	Explanation	Possible Staff Action
<i>Active</i>	The hold request has not yet been linked to an available item.	Monitor the request. Requests may have to be cancelled. The expiration date may need to be changed due to popularity of the item and longer wait times.
<i>Cancelled</i>	Hold requests that have been cancelled by the patron or a staff person.	These requests can be reactivated, if needed.
<i>Expired</i>	Hold requests that have expired.	These requests can be reactivated, if needed.
<i>Held</i>	The item should be on your holds shelf.	Monitor the item to make sure it does not remain on the shelf past the unclaimed date.
<i>Inactive</i>	The hold has an activation date that is after today's date.	Items will automatically move to active status upon the activation date.
<i>Not Supplied</i>	The item could not be supplied.	No items are available for the hold request. May be due to an item specific hold. Check the bib record to find other available items.
<i>Pending</i>	Hold requests that have been linked to an available item.	Monitor for anomalies.
<i>Shipped</i>	Items that have been shipped to fill a patron's hold request.	Notify FLLS or the sending library if the item hasn't arrived within 2 weeks. Keep in mind that delivery is still limited.
<i>Unclaimed</i>	Items that have not been picked up.	Check the holds shelf for the item and check it in to return to the sending library or to fill another hold request.

REMINDER: All trainings will be held virtually in 2021. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings on Zoom. Email jshonk@fls.org to schedule a session.

REMINDER: Polaris handouts on the FLLS website have been updated. To access the handouts visit <https://www.fls.org/> and click on **STAFF LOGIN**. Enter the username and password and click on **Log In**. Then click on **Polaris Documentation**. Please contact jshonk@fls.org, efranks@fls.org, or rhelwig@fls.org for the username and password.

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AWARDS & GRANTS

 <p>LIBRARIES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES <small>FOCUS ON SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES</small></p> <p>ALA American Library Association</p>	<p>A SPECIAL GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES</p> <p>ala.org/LTCFocus</p>
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ALA invites library workers to apply for the [Libraries Transforming Communities \(LTC\): Focus on Small and Rural Libraries](http://ala.org/LTC). Up to 100 libraries will be awarded in this round of grantmaking, part of ALA's longtime community engagement initiative. Library workers may apply online for grant funding by **September 16** at ala.org/LTC.

Library workers will complete a [free ALA e-course](#) on basic facilitation skills; host at least one conversation with community members on a chosen topic; and receive \$3,000 to support community engagement efforts. Grant funds may cover a range of expenses, including staff time and collections and technology purchases.

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

Rosen Grant Reports



The 2020 Rosen Grant Report is now available on their grant portal CommunityForce. The report is due on **Thursday, September 30** at 9pm. Please reach out to Heidi heckerson@flls.org if you have any questions.

NYLA Public Library Section Awards and Conference Scholarships applications being accepted

Deadline: Sunday, September 12

Categories include: Public Libraries Building Awards - New Construction, Conference Scholarship Awards, and the L. Marion Moshier/Asa Wynkoop Award.

For eligibility requirements and application instructions, visit the PLS page on the NYLA website: <https://bit.ly/2Ww9pq8>.

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