



## MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.15

Friday, September 24, 2021

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Banned Books Week is 9/26-10/2! Click [HERE](#) for free downloads from ALA and visit <https://bannedbooksweek.org/> for even more resources!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

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

### LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[The Great 2021 Fall Book Preview: Our 60 best reads for right now](#)

[Don't Miss These Banned Books Week Coalition Events!](#)

[Work in Progress: Workforce Development in Public Libraries](#)



[Finger Lakes Library System's Trustee Newsletter](#)

[South Central Regional Library Resources Council Career Coaching](#)

[Confronting History | Tulsa library educates on race massacre](#)

[Laura Mielenhausen introduced as newest leader of Ulysses Philomathic Library](#)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of fall! Here are some updates for you:

**Construction Aid** - Lauren Moore, Assistant Commissioner for Libraries and State Librarian, announced on September 15 that the NYS Library, in partnership with New York's 23 public library systems, awarded \$14 Million in State Aid for Library Construction funds for the FY2020-21 projects. Throughout the State, there were 135 projects. These awards are typically received earlier but were delayed due to COVID-19. A list of all of the FY2020-21 State Aid for Library Construction projects is posted on the [State Library's website](#). Finger Lakes had three member library projects: the Seymour Library in Auburn, the Waterloo Library and Historical Society and Tompkins County Public Library. Those three projects totaled \$421,048.

Our current cycle of library construction projects will be voted on this Wednesday, September 29 at the Finger Lakes Library System Board of Trustees meeting.

**NYLA Governance Task Force** – The task force met earlier this week to go over our final revisions for the New York Library Association's bylaws. Our work as a task force is to both review and update the bylaws and make necessary revisions and suggestions. The task force has agreed that we are satisfied with our revisions and have asked that it be passed on to legal counsel for review. The task force is aiming for the legal review to be complete by early October and the bylaws to be on the October 7 NYLA Council agenda. Once it passes NYLA Council's review, it will go out to the full NYLA membership for review and comments. A vote on the bylaw changes will take place on November 4 during the NYLA Conference.

Now that our bylaw review is coming to a close, the task force will be briefly looking at policies and other NYLA documents for suggestions and review. The NYLA President is also in the process of forming a search committee for the Executive Director position. I will be able to share more information on the search process and the committee shortly.

**FLLS Board of Trustees** – The FLLS Board of Trustees will be meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, September 29 at 5:30pm. We have many agenda items this month including: our audit review, our 990 review, voting on library construction aid projects, a FLLS construction project that will be for extra insulation for a specific area of our building, and our Plan of Service. A reminder that our Plan of Service actually is three different documents: our regular Plan of Service for the next five years, our Free Direct Access Plan, and our Central Library (TCPL) Plan of Service for the next five years.

**FLLS Annual Meeting** – Look for more information next week about our upcoming Annual Meeting, which will be held via Zoom on Friday, October 15 at 10am. During this meeting, we will voting in new trustees, holding a brief business meeting, and I will be sharing updates with directors and trustees. We hope to see you, albeit virtually, this year!

I hope everyone has a wonderful and relaxing weekend!

Sarah





# MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

**Coburn Free Library** celebrated their brand new Accessibility Annex with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 16. Visit their [Facebook page](#) for more pictures and read more about the celebration and annex in the following articles:

[Coburn Free Library holds ribbon cutting following renovations](#)

[Accessibility for all!](#)



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# SCAM ALERT!

## A New Phishing Attack on Microsoft 365 Users Leverages Open Redirects To Avoid Detection

The use of open redirects from legitimate domains makes phishing emails that much more believable and credible, obfuscating the dangerous nature of these attacks.

In the ongoing saga of attacks on Microsoft 365 users, security analysts at Microsoft recently announced a widespread attack that utilizes open redirects – a technique used in web development to point to the URL visitors of a website should be taken to once the initially-visited page is done processing the visit.

A simple example of an open redirect is the following:

`[https://]example[DOT]com/redirect[DOT]php?url=[http://]attacker[DOT]com`

According to Microsoft, attackers will use a bit more trickery to fool those that choose to hover over links in emails before clicking on them, embedding a malicious URL within what appears to be a trusted URL (note the red portion of the screenshot at the blog)

In many cases, redirects to malicious URLs first take visitors to Google reCAPTCHA pages to further obfuscate the nature of the final destination from security solutions designed to evaluate email links.

While evaluating destination URLs via hovering over links in an email is definitely a good security practice, threat actors are becoming wise to this and are taking steps such as those mentioned above to make it even more difficult to spot a malicious link.

Users should be taught via Security Awareness Training to be more mindful of the actual message being sent – if unsolicited, it should be treated with at least a bit of distrust and scrutiny, being certain it is legitimate before engaging with links – benign or malicious.

**Blog post with links and screenshot:**

**<https://blog.knowbe4.com/new-phishing-attack-on-microsoft-365-users-leverages-open-redirects-to-avoid-detection>**







# ONLINE LEARNING

## Upcoming Webinars

### **FLLS Polaris Trainings via Zoom**

Please join us for a series of Polaris webinars this fall! Registration is required. All sessions will be recorded and available to view on Vimeo.

#### **Polaris New User Part 1**

**Wednesday, October 20, 10am**

[Description](#) | [REGISTER](#)

#### **Polaris New User Part 2**

**Wednesday, October 27, 10am**

[Description](#) | [REGISTER](#)

#### **Polaris Item Maintenance Part 1**

**Wednesday, November 10, 10am**

[Description](#) | [REGISTER](#)

#### **Polaris Item Maintenance Part 2**

**Wednesday, November 17, 10am**

[Description](#) | [REGISTER](#)

### **Librarian's Guide to Homelessness FREE On Demand!**

To gain access to the webinar series, please have staff members email [ishonk@flls.org](mailto:ishonk@flls.org).

**October's Webinar: Q&A With Ryan  
Thursday, October 14 at 2pm**

Sample questions:

- Is there a specific patron that you are unsure how to handle and would like guidance?
- Do you have specific questions about people experiencing homelessness, poverty, mental illness, or substance abuse?
- Do you have a coworker who struggles when dealing with challenging patrons and want to know how to help them?

Registration is required, [REGISTER!](#)  
To submit a video question, click [HERE](#).

## Conferences & Special Programs

### **Trustee Handbook Book Club**

Join co-authors of the Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich for this fun and informative series! Each month trustees are encouraged to read a chapter of the Trustee Handbook and send in questions that the authors will address at live events later this year. Trustees and Directors from all public library systems in New York State are welcome.

**Tuesday, October 19, 5:00pm**

**Duties & Responsibilities** | [REGISTER](#)

**Tuesday, November 16, 5:00pm**

**Library Board Meetings** | [REGISTER](#)

**Tuesday, December 14, 5:00pm**

**Personnel** | [REGISTER](#)



**South Central Regional  
Library Council**

Make Smart Connections.

### **SCRLC 55th Annual Membership Meeting Wholehearted Libraries: Meeting the Needs of Community with Dr. Michael Stephens**

**October 22, 9:30am**

The most important challenge we are facing in libraries now is ensuring we are open and welcoming for everyone. The world has changed so much in the last few years. We need to make sure our services meet the needs of those who might visit the library to feel safe. Those who need access to information and services that may help them get on solid ground in their lives. The underserved and the invisible should feel welcome and encouraged in our spaces, both physical, virtual and across the community itself. And every voice should be heard. Every story told... [Continue Reading](#)

### **Internet Librarian 2021**

**October 26-28**

The conference is going virtual. If you would like to attend now that it is virtual, the Empire State Library Network has a discount code for you. A virtual pass is \$199 (regularly \$299).

Use code: 21ES.

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# PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

## Programming Librarian Program Model: Fairy Golf: The Mini-est Mini Golf

“It's DIY table-top putt putt! We provided patrons with everything they need to create a mini miniature golf hole complete with obstacles. Each participant had the choice to take their project home or to make it during our in-person program and add it to the Fairy Golf Course around the library. The course will stay up as a passive activity in the weeks to come.”



## YALSA TeenTober

TeenTober, a new, nationwide celebration hosted by libraries every October and aims to celebrate teens, promote year-round teen services and the innovative ways teen services helps teens learn new skills, and fuel their passions in and outside the library. Download your [TeenTober Toolkit](#) today.

**MAKE IT MONDAY!**

**GREAT IDEA!**

**DIY SHARPIE MUGS**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 18TH 6:00 - 7:00 PM**  
**GRADES 4-12 AND ADULTS REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

websterlibrary • Following

websterlibrary Check out our October Make It Monday craft! DIY sharpie mugs just in time for warm and cozy fall drinks! #makeitmonday #getcrafty #fall #cozy #crafts #websterpubliclibrary #websterny Register here: <https://websterlibrary.libcal.com/event/8200367>

1d

houseformykids So beautiful!

1d Reply

Liked by seymourlibrary and others

1 DAY AGO

Add a comment...

Post

## For Further Reading...

### Mask Up for Story Time

### Report on Library Programming Offers Recommendations to the Field

### 'Knowing Your Community': What It Really Means for Programming Librarians

### What's the Story?: Ideas for Creative StoryWalk Programming

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# POLARIS FAQ

## Placing Holds: Multi-Request in Polaris Leap

You can also place multiple holds in Polaris Leap. This function could be used for a patron who would like multiple books by the same author or books of the same genre/subject. Using the search bar at the top of the screen, search for the patron by name or barcode. After locating the patron's account, click on the **Holds/Held** section. Then, click on **More → Multiple Holds**.

Check Out (0) Out (0) / Overdue (0) Account (\$0.00) Claims (0) / Lost (0) **Holds (0) / Held (0)** ILL (0) / Held (0)

**New Hold** Cancel Reactivate Delete Suspend/Reactivate **More** Filter H

<input type="checkbox"/>	AUTHOR ▼	TITLE	FORMAT	CALL NUMBER	ACTIVATION	PICKUP BRANCH	QUEUE
<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fill Now <input type="checkbox"/> Deny <input type="radio"/> Ask Me Later <input type="button" value="Return"/> <input type="button" value="Add To Group"/> <input type="button" value="Remove From Group"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="Multiple Holds"/></div>							

A hold request workform will open. Click on **ADD TITLES**. The Find Tool will open, allowing you to search for records and select multiple records to place on hold.

Activation: 9/24/2021 Expiration: 9/19/2022 Pickup: FLLS-Finger Lakes Library ! ▼ **PLACE HOLD** CANCEL

<input type="checkbox"/>	AUTHOR	TITLE	FORMAT	ASSIGNED BRANCH	CALL NUMBER	ITEM BARCODE
<div><b>ADD TITLES</b> <input type="button" value=""/></div>						

Simply click in the box next to each record. When done, click **Open**.

The titles will now appear in the workform. You can change activation/expiration dates and pickup location. Click on **PLACE HOLD** to place these titles on hold.

**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](mailto:jshonk@fls.org) to schedule a session.

**REMINDER:** To access Polaris handouts on our website, 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](mailto:jshonk@fls.org), [efranks@fls.org](mailto:efranks@fls.org), or [rhelwig@fls.org](mailto:rhelwig@fls.org) for the username and password.



# AWARDS & GRANTS

## Friends of Tompkins County Public Library Education Grants

The Friends is offering local librarians, library assistants, and future librarians **grants to continue their professional education**. These grants are available to staff members of libraries within **Tompkins County** to partially cover costs of attending professional meetings, workshops, training sessions, and conferences, and to defray the cost of course work. Awards amounts are typically in the several hundreds of dollars.

The applicant must provide information about the content of the proposed program, associated costs, and any other available financial support, as well as two letters of recommendation, one from a supervisor. There is a link to a PDF of the application form on the website of the Education Grants Committee: <http://www.friendsoftcpl.org/grants/education-grants/>. Completed applications should be submitted electronically to [edgrants@booksale.org](mailto:edgrants@booksale.org) by October 26, 2021. Applicants who are unable to apply electronically should contact [avolckmar@gmail.com](mailto:avolckmar@gmail.com). Grant recipients will be informed by November 10, 2021.

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ALA has announced a new grant for libraries designed to spark conversations about American history and culture through an examination of the women's suffrage movement. To qualify for this grant, the applying institution must be a library (public, tribal, school, academic, or special) residing in the U.S. or U.S. territories. Read the [grant guidelines](#) and [frequently asked questions](#).

Through [Let's Talk About It \(LTAI\): Women's Suffrage](#), participants will read a series of books curated by humanities scholars and discuss the people and events from this often under-taught part of U.S. history. Twenty-five libraries will be selected to receive a \$1,000 stipend to support programming costs, ten copies of five themed books, access to programming guides and support materials, virtual training on the LTAI model, a suite of online resources and more. Applications will be accepted from September 1 to December 1, 2021. Library workers can apply online at [ala.org/ltai](http://ala.org/ltai). Please reach out to [publicprograms@ala.org](mailto:publicprograms@ala.org) with any questions!

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## 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](mailto:heckerson@flls.org) if you have any questions.

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