



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.19

Friday, November 19, 2021

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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.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Library of Congress Changes Illegal Aliens Subject Heading](#)



[Member Spotlight—Andrea Tillinghast](#)

[Reconnect, Reach, Recharge: Books for Programming Librarians](#)

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Did you miss an issue?

Check <https://www.fls.org/bulletin> for archived bulletins!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our last two weeks have been very busy at FLLS, and here are some updates for you:

FLLS Board Meeting – The Finger Lakes Library System Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, November 17. During that meeting, the Board voted to pay off our mortgage for our building early. Not having monthly mortgage payments will enable FLLS to provide more specialized grant funding to our members starting next year, including a project I have been wanting to do for some time that will provide grants to our members for their collections. Many years ago, FLLS provided grant opportunities for our libraries undergoing weeding projects to help build collections that are more modern and to help offset the cost of collection funds for our libraries. In times of budget uncertainty, we know that library boards often cut collections and programming budgets first, and this will help our members grow their collections while taking some of the financial burden off our member libraries. We will be sharing more information on this grant opportunity in early 2022.



ARPA – Applications were due on Thursday of this week for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This grant is administered by the State Library and will be going to the nine regional library councils in the State. Our regional library council, South Central Regional Library Council, worked with FLLS, Southern Tier Library System and Four County Library System on the public library system component of the grant. FLLS' portion of the funding will work on digital inclusion opportunities in our service area, including upgrading of Meraki routers and access points. We expect the application and our projects will be approved in early January 2022.

NYLA Updates – The NYLA Executive Director Search Committee met on Thursday of this week to review applications. Our committee received 34 applications to date from across the nation and we selected six applicants to have an initial virtual interview starting the week of November 29. Our goal is to have in-person interviews for our second and final round of interviews starting on Monday, December 20. Our committee was impressed by the applications we received and are hopeful for filling the position in January 2022.

On Friday, November 19, NYLA released a position statement on the defense of intellectual freedom that is available on their [website](#). Nationwide, school libraries and public libraries are seeing an increasing number of book challenges, especially for books dealing with race or LGBTQ+ communities. While we thankfully are not seeing challenges in our service area, it is important to remember ALA, NYLA and FLLS believes in the commitment to protecting and upholding intellectual freedom and the freedom to read.

Thanksgiving Holiday – A reminder that FLLS will be closed on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 to observe the Thanksgiving holiday. Our 2022 holiday closure list was sent out to member library directors this week.

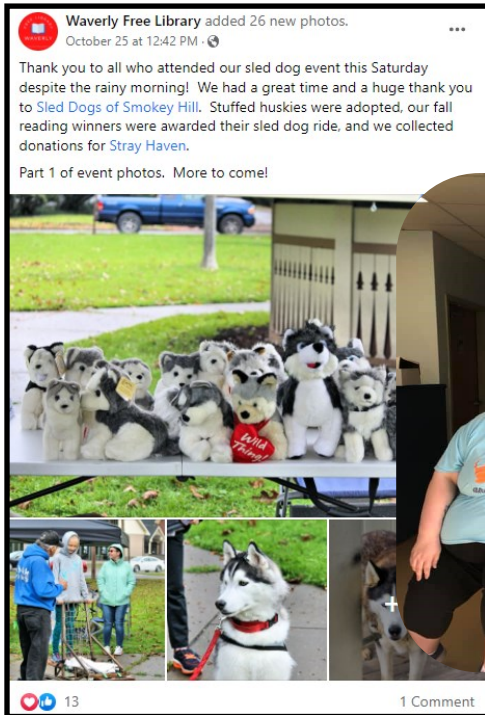
I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday.
Sarah



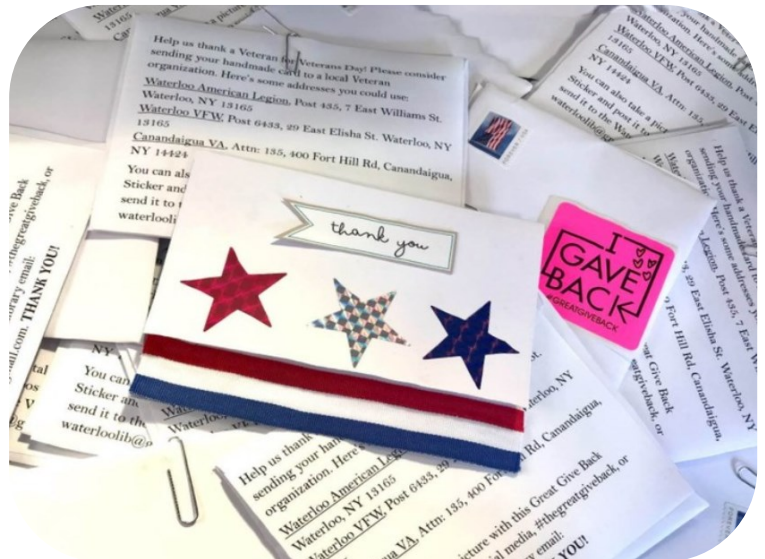
MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Do you have something to share? Email jshonk@fills.org!

Thank you to our member libraries that participated in **The Great Give Back** this year, here are photos from a few of the events!



Waverly Free Library collected donations for Stray Haven Humane Society & SPCA. Their Sled Dog event on October 23 had a dual purpose of rewarding Fall Reading winners with dog sled rides AND collecting donations! Click on the images above to view the posts on Facebook.



Waterloo Library & Historical Society collected coats, gloves, mittens, and hats to donate to Ashia's closet in honor of Domestic Abuse Awareness Month and the Seneca County Coat Project help keep the community warm. They also gave out Take & Make kits to create cards to thank veterans for their service in honor of Veterans Day. Click the image on the right to view the post on Instagram.

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Thank you to our member libraries that participated in **The Great Give Back** this year, here are photos from a few of the events!



The **Lamont Memorial Free Library (McGraw)** collected personal care items for the McGraw Community Food Pantry AND winter coats and jackets for all ages! Hat and mitten sets from their Knit and Crochet group and winter coats & jackets were given out in late October!

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

OCTOBER 23, 2021

In collaboration with the Charles H. Bassett Youth Foundation, Coburn Free Library celebrates **Make a Difference Day**! Together we are collecting items for Thanksgiving meals to support the work of the Tioga County Rural Ministry. Items needed are: instant potatoes, stuffing, canned yams, canned pumpkin, cranberries, and gravy. Drop off your donations before 11am on October 23. Thank you for supporting Tioga County, NY.

Drop food items by the library during open hours.
Coburn Free Library is located at 275 Main Street, Owego and open MWF from 10am-5pm, T/Th 2pm-7pm, and Saturdays from 1pm-4pm





Coburn Free Library

Tioga County Warm Hands,
Warm Feet Project
October 1st – 20th



Coburn Free Library is collecting adult socks and winter gloves to support the work of the Tioga County Rural Ministry. We have many in our community who need warm clothing now that the weather is cooling. You may help by bringing socks and winter gloves (in adult sizes) to the library at 275 Main Street, Owego. Men's winter gloves are especially needed.
Thank you for supporting Tioga County, NY.

No registration required. Drop socks/gloves by the library during open hours.
Coburn Free Library is located at 275 Main Street, Owego and open MWF from 10am-5pm, T/Th 2pm-7pm, and Saturdays from 1pm-4pm





Coburn Free Library (Owego) collected adult socks and winter gloves to be distributed by Tioga County Rural Ministries. Additionally, they celebrated *Make a Difference Day* on October 23, in collaboration with the Charles H. Bassett Youth Foundation, by collecting items for Thanksgiving meals to support the work of the Tioga County Rural Ministries.



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

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Thank you to our member libraries that participated in **The Great Give Back** this year, here are photos from a few of the events!



Candor Free Library collected food and personal hygiene items for the Candor Bread of Life Food Pantry.



Cortland Free Library held a collection drive for Cortland Loaves & Fishes.



Lodi Whittier Library hosted a Thanksgiving Food Drive to collect non-perishable food items to add to the Lodi Food Pantry's Thanksgiving baskets that will be distributed for the holiday.

LODI WHITTIER LIBRARY

Thanksgiving FOOD DRIVE

TO BENEFIT LODI FOOD 4 ALL COMMUNITY
FOOD PANTRY

JOIN OUR LIBRARY IN PARTICIPATING IN THE GREAT
GIVEBACK BY DONATING NON-PERISHABLES BETWEEN
10/16 AND 11/19

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:
stuffing mix, gravy, potato flakes,
cranberry sauce, cornbread mix,
canned vegetables & fruits, juice,
pie filling
donations will be collected at the library during
open hours

THE
GREAT
GIVE
BACK



SCAM ALERT!

[HEADS UP] Get Prepared for Sophisticated Black Friday Scams

Researchers at Tessian caution that people should be wary of scams as Black Friday approaches. The researchers found that 30% of people in the US reported receiving a phishing message around Black Friday in 2020.

“Nearly a third of U.S. consumers (30%) said they received a phishing email around Black Friday last year, either by email or SMS to their personal email or cell,” the researchers write. “The thing is that consumers expect to receive more marketing and advertising emails from retailers during this time, touting their deals, along with updates about their orders and notifications about deliveries.

Inboxes are noisier-than-usual and this makes it easier for cybercriminals to ‘hide’ their malicious messages. What’s more, attackers can leverage the ‘too-good-to-be-true’ deals people are expecting to receive, using them as lures to successfully deceive their victims. When the email looks like it has come from a legitimate brand and email address, people are more likely to click on malicious links that lead to fake websites or download harmful attachments.”

Tessian also notes that employees at retailers should be vigilant for phishing attacks as they approach the busiest time of the year.

“And it’s not just consumers that need to be wary,” Tessian says. “Employees in the retail industry will be busier and more distracted than ever during this time, faced with hundreds of orders, thousands of customer queries to respond to, and overwhelming sales targets to hit. Cybercriminals will use this to their advantage, crafting sophisticated phishing emails and cleverly worded social engineering messages in the hope that a stressed worker will miss the cues and comply with their requests.”

Tessian concludes that employers should ensure that their employees are equipped to recognize these attacks. “In fact, security leaders in the retail industry told us that they aren’t 100% confident that their staff will be able to identify the scams that land in their inbox during these busier periods,” the researchers write.

“Being made aware of the scams and being provided with sound advice in-the-moment on what to do if they do receive a phishing email will make the difference between whether an employee clicks on the link or shares their credentials versus if they don’t.”

It’s worth remembering, as we consider the warnings, that Black Friday has undergone the same kind of seasonal creep other American holiday periods have seen, the kind of seasonal creep that now causes Halloween candy to begin appearing in stores as early as August. The scams are clearly connected to the calendar, but they’re connected loosely, and the criminals won’t wait until the Friday after Thanksgiving to start pursuing their marks.

New-school security awareness training enables your employees to recognize phishing and other social engineering attacks.

Blog post with links:

<https://blog.knowbe4.com/preparing-for-black-friday-scams>



ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

Calm, (Legally) Cool, and Collected: Tactics for Libraries Facing Book Challenges and Collection-based Protests

Thursday, December 2, 1:00pm

Presented by Stephanie "Cole" Adams. Using applicable library ethics and law as a foundation, this practical and action-oriented session will work through the roles, responsibilities, and possible tactics of every person working at and supporting a library when a community needs to weather a content challenge, protest, and/or obscenity charges based on materials in their collection. The session will be 90 minutes, 30 of which are reserved for participant questions. Attendees will receive a summary chart and template response plan. Submit your questions (via the registration link above) before November 24.

Thinking Outside - Nature-Based Programs at the Library

Thursday, December 16, 4:00pm

Are you interested in implementing nature-based programming to help connect your patrons to the natural world? Nature programming can help you attract new audiences, as well as deepen your relationship with the library's "frequent flyers." In addition, nature programming can help foster a conservation ethic that will guide the way towards a sustainable future. Join school librarian and longtime environmental educator Nate Keefe to explore how to create nature programming that will suit the needs of both your patrons and your library.

Promote Community Engagement and Challenge Prejudice with a Human Library

Thursday, January 20, 3:00pm

The idea of circulating 'human books' first emerged in 2000, in Copenhagen, Denmark, as a way to help grow community understanding of the diversity of the human experience, locally and on a global level. The Human Library® model seeks to create safe spaces for dialogue where topics are discussed openly between human books and their readers. Join us to gain insights from a public and academic library using this innovative and impactful model to create meaningful community dialogue.

Conferences & Special Programs



CSLP Symposium on Summer Reading and Summer Learning!

**Thursday, December 2, 11:30am-4:30pm
FREE**

This virtual conference is for library staff that are interested in summer programming. Registration is now open.



Library Journal: How To Build an Antiracist Library Culture

February 15, 22, & March 1

\$237.24 with Early Bird Discount thru 12/17

Through this course, you'll learn about the concrete actions library leaders are taking to help cultivate an antiracist, inclusive library culture—from reflecting on their own implicit biases, to evaluating spaces, programs, and services and examining policies and practices through an antiracist lens. Practical coursework, along with targeted support, will take you from theory to application, providing tools and resources that will help you to transform your library culture and services to more equitably meet the needs of your community.

You'll complete assignments to create your own equity-based initiative over 3+ weeks in an interactive online classroom environment with personal coaching from an expert in the field. In addition, you'll have access to our foundational bonus content—rich supporting materials you can explore at your own pace, including a series of webinars from Library Journal and School Library Journal contributors, readings, activities, and videos.

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PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

Summer Reading

Recently Heidi sent out emails about the 2022 CSLP Summer Reading Program, *Oceans of Possibility*. All of this info can be found at our [Summer Reading Blog](#) on the FLLS website.

We've started thinking about our annual Summer Reading Planning Meeting held in mid-March and created a short and sweet [SRP Planning Meeting Survey](#) where you can give us your thoughts.



Image, Right: *"My daughter made this [octopus] when she was home from college a couple summers ago. When she moved to Ohio I made her take it. Now I've had her bring it back!"* - Gayle James, Director at Stewart B. Lang Memorial Library in Cato

Professional Magazine Routing

Heidi is updating the FLLS Professional Magazines Routing List for 2022. Fill out this quick [Google form](#) to update your preferences. *Note: Please complete this form even if you already receive some of the titles. There are some new publications on the list.* Thanks!

Introducing Percival, the FLLS Falcon



Meet Percival, the Peregrine Falcon. We welcomed him into our FLLS flock here in Ithaca. Inspired by our FALCONS group, Percival is not your run-of-the-mill raptor. Follow this falcon's story on our socials and future issues of this bulletin.

Here's a 2020 bright spot: Last year a peregrine falcon was spotted at Taughannock Falls in Ithaca, New York. The last sighting was in 1946. Read more about it from the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#).

Does your library have a mascot? We'd love to meet them and hear their story. Please share pictures and stories with Jenny jshonk@flls.org or Heidi heckerson@flls.org.

Image, Left: *Percival modeling scarf crocheted by Jenny as he gets ready for the upstate New York winter.*

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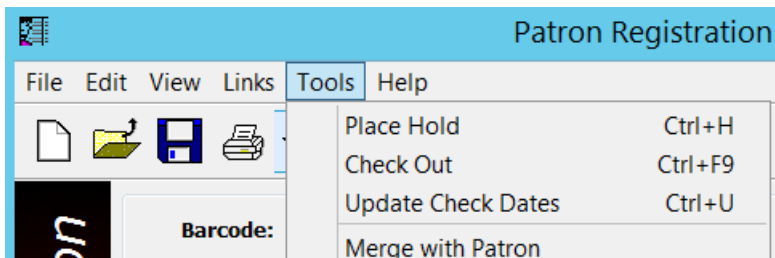


POLARIS FAQ

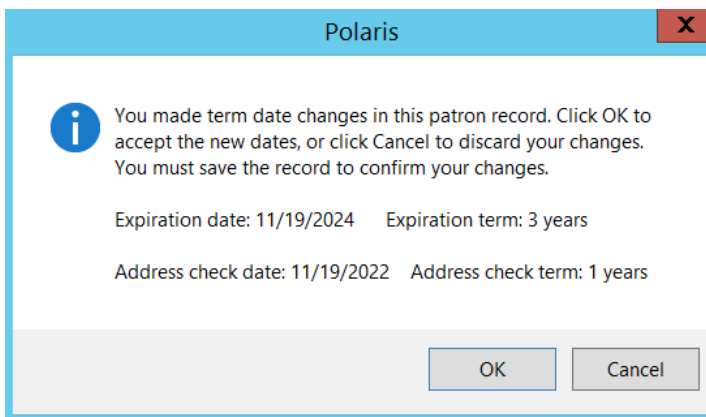
Updating Expired Patron Registrations

It is important to renew patron registrations when they expire. When checking out items to an expired patron, a block will pop up notifying you that the registration has expired. When renewing, verify that all information is still accurate. Each library has different policies regarding the number of years to extend a patron registration. Check with your supervisor for more information.

- Click the **Open Patron Registration** icon in the Check Out screen or go to **Patron Services → Patron Records** and search for your patron to open their Patron Registration. You can manually change the Expiration date by selecting a number and a term (exact date, months, years). You may also have to update the Address Check date.
- Alternatively, you can press **Ctrl U** on your keyboard or go to **Tools → Update Check Dates**.



- A window will pop up showing the new dates. Click **OK** to confirm or **Cancel** to discard.



- Don't forget to go to the patron's status or press **F9** on your keyboard, go to the **General** page, and remove the "Registration has expired" block.

REMINDER: All trainings will be held virtually in 2021. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings via Zoom. Email 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, efranks@fls.org, or rhelwig@fls.org for the username and password.



AWARDS & GRANTS



PLA 2022 SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications Now Being Accepted

To encourage equity, diversity, and inclusion in the library profession, PLA is sponsoring fifteen (15) general conference scholarship with five (5) scholarships in each of three categories: Early-career Library Staff Scholarships, Non-Salaried or Unemployed Library Staff Scholarships, and Library School Student Scholarships. Each scholarship includes complimentary registration, one year of ALA and PLA membership, and a \$500 stipend for travel and housing. *These scholarships provide financial assistance for public library workers and students to be able to attend the PLA 2022 Conference in person in Portland, March 23–25. These scholarships may not be applied toward the PLA 2022 Virtual Conference.*

More information is available here:

https://www.placonference.org/general_scholarships.cfm

Penguin Random House Grants for Small & Rural Libraries

The Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) recently announced the establishment of a new grant opportunity for small and rural libraries nationwide, made possible through the generosity of Penguin Random House.

The program will award grants to libraries that demonstrate a true need. Grants are not limited to literacy and may be used for everything from library programming and books to resources like hotspots that help community members access important information. In-kind donations will also be considered. Not all applications will be selected for funding. If selected, grants will be awarded for up to \$2,500. This is a rolling grant application, with batches of applications going under review every 8 weeks beginning December 17, 2021. See below for important dates. [Apply today!](#)

Submission Window	Award Notification Deadline
October 25, 2021 - December 17, 2021	February 7, 2022
December 20, 2021 - February 11, 2022	April 4, 2022
February 14, 2022 - April 8, 2022	May 27, 2022
April 11, 2022 - June 3, 2022	July 29, 2022

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