



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 22.2

Friday, January 28, 2022

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"A LIBRARY IN THE MIDDLE OF A COMMUNITY IS A CROSS BETWEEN AN EMERGENCY EXIT, A LIFE RAFT, AND A FESTIVAL. THEY ARE CATHEDRALS OF THE MIND; HOSPITALS OF THE SOUL; THEME PARKS OF THE IMAGINATION."

CAITLIN MORAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

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

New year, new routing list! With new faces and new titles Heidi is updating the professional magazine routing lists. Even if you are currently on the list please [fill out this form](#) with your preferences. The old lists are outdated and will no longer be used.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Waterloo Library receives new environmental books from Seneca Meadows](#)

[Why Your DEI Programs Are Not Working](#)



[Outstanding Outreach](#)

[2022 Youth Media Award Winners](#)

[School book ban debate arrives in Auburn](#)

[Selection & Reconsideration Policy Toolkit for Public, School, & Academic Libraries](#)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

There are many NY State updates for our libraries in this newsletter, including:



NY State Budget – We finally know Governor Hochul's Executive Budget and for the first time in over six years, the proposed funding for library aid has increased. This year's Executive Budget includes:

Library Aid: \$96.1

The proposed funding is \$2M more than what was in last year's enacted state budget. While this depicts a moderate increase to our general aid, it fails to acknowledge the crucial role libraries serve in our communities and the contributions they make to our state's education system.

Library Construction Aid: \$14M

For the second year in a row, the Executive has proposed to reduce the State Library Construction Aid Program by \$20M. A cut in library construction aid means that our aging libraries would not be able to make necessary renovations, upgrade HVAC or other heating systems, and more.

Love Your Library Fund: Release of 150K for Summer Reading

The Love Your Library Fund was established nearly 17 years ago. There are two separate sources for the Fund; the first is a special license plate and the second is a contribution made via a corporate or personal income tax return. The "Love Your Library Fund" is used exclusively to support the NY Statewide Summer Reading Program. To distribute the funds, explicit language needs to be included in the annual budget.

Directors and trustees were sent emails asking them to participate in a virtual advocacy alert to State leaders. Please consider filling out the advocacy alert – it is quick, easy and you can customize it with your own messaging if you would like.

Advocacy Day – A reminder that Advocacy Day is Wednesday, March 2. All Advocacy Day efforts this year will be virtual as the legislature is currently closed to visitors. Over the next week or so, FLLS is working with our neighboring public library systems and our regional library council to schedule virtual meetings and we will be sending out more information to directors, trustees, and library supporters.

Annual Reports – New York State has unlocked the 2021 Annual Reports portal and you may now login and begin working on your report. A reminder that Jenny Shonk is the contact person at FLLS for Annual Report questions. **Reports are due to FLLS by Monday, February 28.** A reminder that Annual Reports must be board approved, so a board meeting in February must occur to review and approve your library report.

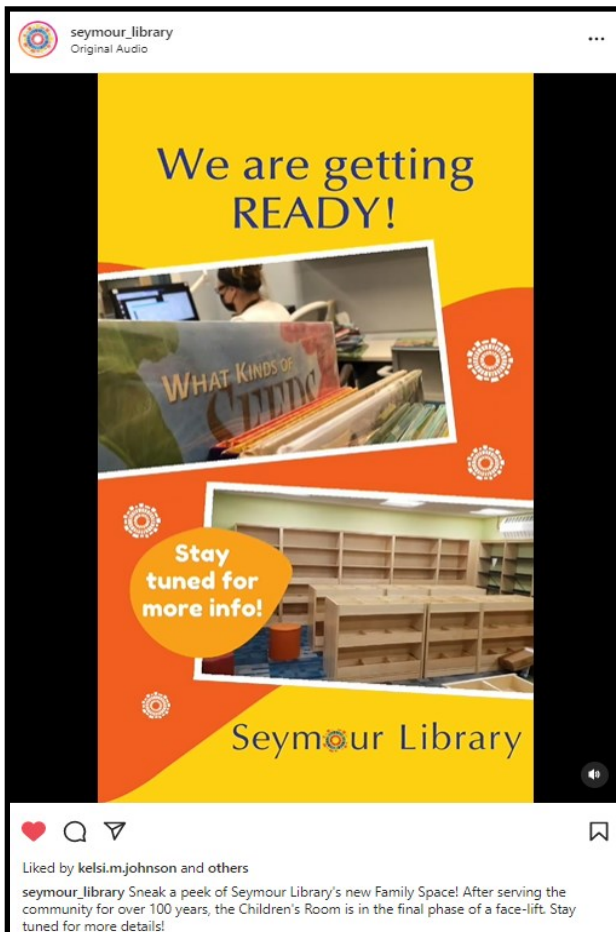
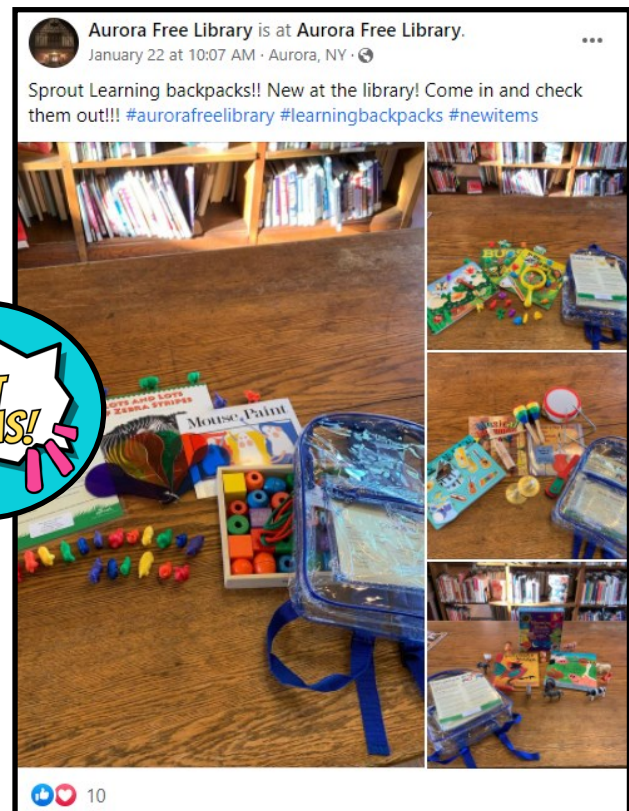
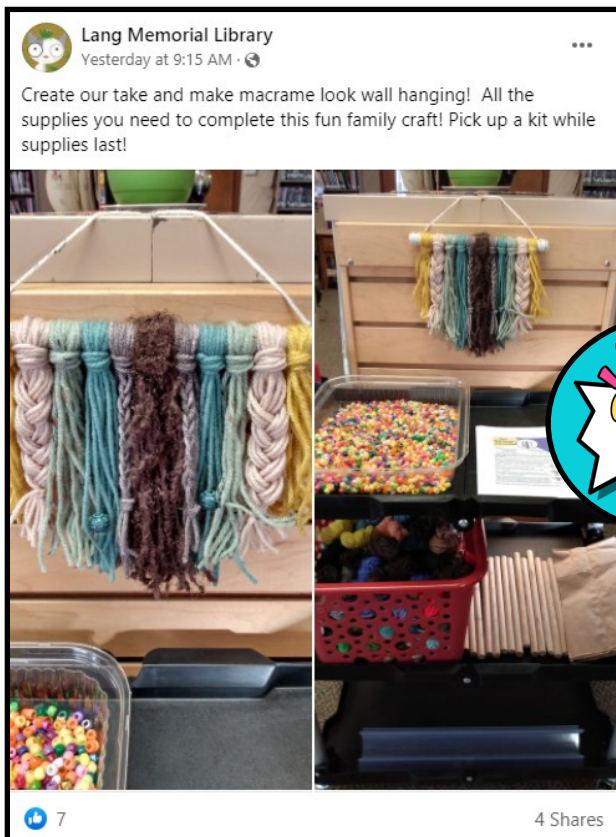
Delivery of COVID-19 tests – Earlier this week, FLLS worked with the Tompkins County Department of Emergency Response to pick up and distribute 3,000 at-home COVID-19 test kits to all libraries in Tompkins County. A big thank you to Tom Smith, our Fleet Manager, for his help with the delivery and distribution of the kits. Seneca County libraries also received and distributed at-home test kits this week.

I hope everyone has a warm and relaxing weekend!
Sarah



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Do you have something to share? Email jshonk@flls.org!
Click an image below to visit the library's social media page!



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SCAM ALERT!

FBI: Beware of a New Google Voice Authentication Scam – Even if You Don't Use Google Voice!

A new advisory warns of a scam that can affect literally anyone designed as a precursor to additional phishing scams and/or to perform Gmail account takeovers.

If you're unfamiliar with Google Voice, it is a service where Google provides you with a virtual phone number so you can make and receive calls and texts. Assuming you are unfamiliar with it, you may be wondering what's all the excitement about?

According to a new FBI advisory entitled "Building a Digital Defense Against Google Voice Authentication Scams," the FBI outlines a scam that involves a threat actor responding to a personal ad – they use the example of selling a couch on craigslist or some other site – and says they want to make sure you are legitimate so they don't get scammed by sending you an authentication code from Google.

What's really happening is the scammer is setting up Google Voice using your phone number as the primary number and using you to assist them with Google's authentication process during setup. Once completed, the threat actor has a new Google Voice account tied to your mobile phone, so they can carry on without worrying about having it tied to their phone. Additionally, the code being sent could be purposed to allow them access to reset the password to your Gmail account.

Organizations relying on Gmail for corporate email should be specifically concerned about the ramifications of such a scam; with access to one of your internal email accounts, threat actors can easily spray out phishing emails designed to provide endpoint access or install ransomware.

Blog post with more details and links:

<https://blog.knowbe4.com/fbi-beware-of-a-new-google-voice-authentication-scam-even-if-you-dont-use-google-voice>





ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

Facebook + Data Privacy: How Facebook Mismanages Information and What It Means for Users (METRO)

Thursday, February 10, 4:00pm

Join our data privacy + security experts Dan Ayala and Gary Price for a discussion on how Facebook functions behind the scenes, how their corporate decision-making makes its users vulnerable, and the implications of these decisions on populations around the world.

In this session, you will learn:

- How likes, shares, and thumb-stoppers create an online environment where mis- and dis-information spreads rapidly
- How recent revelations shed light on how Facebook prioritizes the needs of governments over the needs of residents
- Why we as library workers should stay informed on the way Facebook (mis)uses information, and what it means for library patrons

ReadSquared Webinars (NYS)

Tuesday, February 22, 10:30am

OR Thursday, March 3, 10:30am

READsquared training sessions for NY state public library staff have been set up. Pre-registration is not required; staff can simply join the link of the selected session a few minutes before the session begins. Sessions will be recorded and posted for future viewing on the READsquared page of Summer Reading.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

- [CLRC](#)
- [SCRLC](#): Visit <https://www.youtube.com/user/scrlc1> to view recordings!
- [Tech-Talk](#) (Available through SCRLC): Username & password = *scrlc'*
- [WebJunction](#)

Librarian's Guide to Homelessness FREE On Demand!

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

Conferences & Special Programs



Trustee Handbook Book Club

The Trustee Handbook Book Club will be continuing in 2022. Visit <https://midhudson.org/trusteebookclub/> to view recordings and register for upcoming sessions!

Library Journal: How to Build Diverse Collections

March 8 | March 15 | March 22

The Early Bird Rate of \$237.24 expires on February 4!

In this course, you'll learn from an outstanding group of experts as they explore key concepts essential to cultivating and promoting inclusive and equitable collections. You'll conduct a diversity audit of your collections, and hear about ways to include wider perspectives from and about LGBTQIA people; people of color; ethnic, cultural, religious minorities and more. You'll learn how to ensure that your collections are more reflective of the diversity of your community and the larger world.

PLA 2022 Conference

March 23-25

Portland, Oregon

Like the institutions they support, the role of the public library worker is ever-changing. The COVID-19 crisis magnified this more than any of us could have imagined, but public libraries responded swiftly and creatively to meet their communities' evolving needs. The PLA 2022 Conference is also evolving in order to provide public library professionals the opportunity to reconnect with one another, recreate the services they provide, and revitalize the passion for the work they do every day. While some aspects of the conference may be different due to safety measures, you can still expect to find the top-quality educational programming, awe-inspiring speakers, award-winning authors, and trend-setting exhibitors the PLA Conference is known for. Registration is now open!

Registration for the [Virtual Conference](#) is also open!



PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH



Oceans of Programming Possibility Summer Reading Workshops



FLLS is collaborating with several NYS library systems to host two virtual summer reading programming workshops:

- **Wednesday, February 16:** Children's programming (9:30am-12:30pm)
- **Thursday, March 10:** Teen programming (9:30am-12:30pm)

Join your peers around the state who will be sharing program ideas for Summer 2022 at these virtual workshops. The events will be recorded.

Additionally, FLLS will hold its own virtual Summer Reading workshop on **March 8 at 11:00am** (replacing the regularly scheduled Member Library Support Group meeting) where you can learn about data collection, evaluation, and reporting. Jenny will also share some Adult programming ideas.

StoryWalk Kits

Seneca Falls Library has two StoryWalk kits member libraries can borrow: *Dog on a Frog* and *Interrupting Chicken*. The pages are laminated with 10ml plastic with holes punched into the top so they can be attached to posts with wire ties. Libraries can use velcro on the back if that works for them. Posts are not included. If you are interested in borrowing them please contact Tara tmontoney@senecafallslibrary.org

Summer Reading Die Cuts

We've added new die cuts to the collection for the 2022 SRP Oceans of Possibilities theme!

Octopus, Sea Horse, Wave, Scuba Diver, Pelican, Shark, Shell, Whale, Starfish (4.5" x 5 3/4"), see image on right →

All items in the [Storytime Resources collection](#) are holdable through Polaris and not searchable in PAC.



OverDrive Together We Read Book Club

The free digital book club, [Together We Read](#), from OverDrive returns next month. From **February 7 to 21**, patrons can enjoy author Kirstin Valdez Quade's [2021 First Novel Prize-winning book](#), *The Five Wounds*, as an ebook and audiobook. Readers can access the digital book for free with no waitlists or holds by downloading the [Libby app](#) or at <https://flls.overdrive.com>. They can also participate in an [online discussion](#). For more info visit our [Together We Read blog](#).



POLARIS FAQ

Polaris Training Updates

Please note that Jenny will be focusing on Annual Reports during the month of February so Polaris training appointments will not be available. Exceptions will be made for new staff that require Item Maintenance training to perform their duties.

The Polaris training videos have been finalized and are available on Vimeo, links below. The password to access the videos is the same as for a Polaris workstation. The videos include clickable timestamps in the description section which allow you to jump to certain topics. Please contact jshonk@flls.org with questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions!

Polaris New User Part 1

Topics included: log on/off, shortcuts, navigation, patron registration, patron services, check in/out, and bibliographic/item records.

Polaris New User Part 2

Topics included: searching and holds.

Polaris Item Maintenance Part 1

Topics included: creating Quick Bibs, creating items records, and special procedures for magazines and audio/visual materials.

Polaris Item Maintenance Part 2

Topics included: creating and using record sets, different types of bulk changes, common ways to change your items from "New" to "not new" (including a SQL search), and working with templates.

REMINDER: To access Polaris handouts on our website, 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.

REMINDER: All trainings will be held virtually in 2022 or until the pandemic ends. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings via Zoom. Email jshonk@flls.org to schedule a session.



AWARDS & GRANTS



CFTC (Rosen) Library Grant Cycle Now Open

The new [application](#) combines the 2021 grant report and the 2022 grant request. The January 14th Q&A session with Janet was recorded and sent out to member libraries. For more information, including resources and toolkits, visit the [FLLS blog](#).



ALA Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant

ALA invites library workers to apply for the [Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant](#), an annual award supporting innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries.

Applications will be accepted between until February 1, 2022. View the full award guidelines and apply online at www.ala.org/LTCEG

The Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant recognizes, promotes and supports innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries. It will provide two grants of \$2,000 for a school, public, academic, tribal or special library to expand its community engagement efforts.

Libraries are invited to apply by designing and outlining activities for a library-led community engagement project. Community engagement is the process of working collaboratively with community members – be they library patrons, residents, faculty, students, or local organizations – to address issues for the betterment of the community.

Each year, the grant will focus on supporting a community engagement project with a specific theme. For the 2021–2022 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications for a community engagement project that focuses on a social justice issue of importance in their communities. Examples of potential topics include racial justice, climate justice, or addressing the digital divide. Libraries should work collaboratively with community members and at least one partner organization to develop a project that addresses a local issue and builds upon community assets.

Visit the [grant guidelines](#) for more information.