

Director's Report
WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
September 15, 2018

CORRESPONDENCE

2019 Health Insurance Update

The **Department of Employee Trust Funds (DETF)** has announced a 0% health insurance for state employees and an average of **1.7% increase** for local government employees in 2019. While actual premiums for the different providers have not been released, the list of providers for Marathon County has been announced. Providers available in Marathon County in 2019 include GHC of Eau Claire, Health Partners Health Plan, Security Health Plan-Central and WEA Trust East. Also, retirees who previously cancelled their coverage through ETF will now have the opportunity to re-enroll during the October open enrollment period, and DETF is introducing a Medicare Advantage Plan for retirees in 2019.

Notes of Appreciation

Rib Lake Public Library colleague **Krista Blomberg** sent a note of thanks to **Jamie Matczak** for the new Digital Byte training video on "Positive Work Culture." She commented that she appreciated the tips, especially the information about when to let something go.

Annette Miller, Tomahawk Public Library Children's Librarian, thanked **Anne Hamland** for her Digital Lites post "Telling Your Summer Story" that was shared at the recent Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE) in Merrill. Miller stated, "It was a great reminder and I am adding that to my end of summer wrap-up from now on!"

PEOPLE / LIBRARIES / SYSTEMS IN THE NEWS

DPI Receives Workforce Development Grant

Wisconsin has been awarded a grant of \$249,999 by the Laura Bush 21st Century Library Program to fund the "Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills" (LAWDS) project. The program application was developed collaboratively by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (acting as lead applicant), the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the Wisconsin Workforce Development Association, and the Wisconsin Library Association (WLA).

A total of 73 organizations submitted preliminary proposals to the Institute for Museum and Library Services requesting a total of \$20,447,208. IMLS invited 23 to submit full proposals. 14 were selected to receive a total of \$3,207,711. IMLS's peer reviewers evaluated all eligible and complete grant applications, assessing the merit of each proposal and its fit with the goals of the grant program and project category. IMLS staff presented this information to the IMLS Director, who then made the final funding decisions. – Martha Berninger, DPI

WVLS Welcomes Kiong to the Team!

Kiong Lao has been hired as the new WVLS PC Support Specialist, a position responsible for providing professional, courteous and timely technical support to libraries via telephone, e-mail, help desk, remote access, and on-site visits. This position is also responsible for providing technical tips and consulting for WVLS staff and member library staff. Kiong's first day on the job was Tuesday, September 4.

WVLS PROJECTS

WLA Conference Travel

WVLS is coordinating a mini-coach to this fall's WLA Conference in La Crosse. The coach will depart Marathon County Public Library (MCPL) for the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, **October 23**, and return from the conference at 12:30 pm on Friday, **October 26**. WVLS member library staff and trustees may ride in the coach at no

charge. Contact Jamie Matczak at jmatczak@wvls.org 920-455-0668 to reserve a spot. Reservation deadline is 12 p.m., Monday, September 17.

To see the conference schedule, visit the WLA website at <http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/events-conferences/annual-conference/wla-conference-home>. Also, a WLA Conference Registration Form (**Exhibit 11-a**) is attached to this report for your convenience.

V-Cat Update

Kyle Schulz continues to work on the Sierra Slowness issue. Not much has changed since the August board report, but some progress has been made in the last month. Innovative is trying to pin-point the cause of the slowness. Also he is planning a meeting between WVLS staff and EBSCO to initiate an overhaul of the Discovery Layer to improve the patron search experience.

The V-Cat Council met on September 6. One topic discussed was the standardization of various system settings, including loan rules, maximum number of item check-outs, and fine amounts. As standardizing (or “normalizing”) practices across the consortium has the potential to greatly enhance the patron experience, the Cooperative Circulation Committee will begin gathering data from libraries and use the data collected to create recommendations to bring back to the Council. Also, the V-Cat Council approved the removal of Driver’s License information from the Sierra database, a decision that correlates with data management best practices, and is consistent with practices of the majority of other public library ILS consortiums in the state.

The V-Cat Bibliographic/Interface Committee will meet on October 9, and the V-Cat Council and V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee have meetings on November 1.

Youth Services Update

The final **Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE)** discussion for 2018 took place on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 from 11-2pm at the **T.B. Scott Free Library** in Merrill. Sixteen youth services librarians attended representing three systems: WVLS, South Central Library System, and Northern Waters Library Service. Hamland discussed the new opportunities for youth services offered in 2019 via the WVLS Innovation and Collaboration Grant and WVLS WLA Scholarship, as well as Intellectual Freedom and challenges to library materials. **Katie Zimmerman**, Marathon County Public Library Youth Collection Development Specialist, and **Krista Blomberg**, Youth Librarian at Rib Lake Public Library, were on hand to discuss recent material challenges at their libraries. Attendees shared successes from their summer library programs and brainstormed ways to improve for next year’s program. The next YSIE meet up will take place at an MCPL branch in 2019.

Anne Hamland created a fun Powtoon video recapping summer library programs subsidized by 2018 WVLS Summer Library Program Performer Grants to member libraries. Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/trM-OzAIVgs>. She also has resumed fall youth services phone calls and plans to connect with all youth services librarians by the end of November.

WVLS is Hiring!

In preparation for retirements late 2018/early 2019, WVLS recently posted an ad for an **ILS and Database Support Specialist** position. This position will be responsible for providing professional, courteous and timely ILS and Database support and services to 36 WVLS public libraries and branches via a helpdesk program, and onsite and remote training; creating, editing, adding, and maintaining catalog records in OCLC and the ILS database; and for producing and distributing appropriate ILS statistical and financial reports. The position will remain open until a successful candidate is determined, however applications received by September 17 will receive first consideration.

WVLS Mentorship Program

The WVLS Mentoring Program supports success of new library administrators and staff by matching them with experienced library specialists for one year. There are currently three WVLS mentor/mentee pairs in the program. **Virginia Roberts**, Director of the Rhinelander District Library, is mentoring **Heidi O'Hare** (Tomahawk) and **Dominic Frandrup** (Antigo). **Cara Hart**, Director of the Neillsville Public Library, is mentoring **Stephanie Schmidt** (Crandon). Mentors have at least two years of library experience. Once the mentee shares their goals with a mentor, the pair meets

every few months to brainstorm and talk about concerns. Any new area library staff member who is interested in being paired with a mentor should contact Jamie at WVLS.

WLA Membership and Professional Development Scholarship Update

Dominic Frandrup, Director at the Antigo Public Library, presented a webinar, "**Leading with Compassion**," on August 2. Dominic received a scholarship to attend the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference in May. He said preparing and presenting the webinar was a helpful learning experience and recommends that others apply for this scholarship in the future. It was Dominic's first webinar presentation, and he received favorable comments in the follow-up survey. To view Dominic's webinar, go to the WVLS YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/ddBaOup_gkl.

WPLC Meeting Brief

The WPLC Board met on August 14 via GoToMeeting and highlights were: a review of the Wisconsin Authors Project which received 110 submissions; the Board tabled further discussion on a new local music service modeled after the Wisconsin Indie Collection from Biblioboard; WPLC project managers inquired about the project manager role in responding to national issues and advocacy opportunities related to the Digital Library; and, WPLC project managers reported interest in pursuing content areas not included in the 2018 BadgerLink contract. The Board requested more information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities

There are many opportunities for continuing education this fall, with a major one being a "**Tech Days Workshop**" series, a collaboration of the Wisconsin Valley Library Service, Northern Waters Library Service, Indianhead Federated Library System and Winding Rivers Library System. This workshop series will focus on technology trends, feature nationally renowned Laura Solomon as opening speaker, and consist of break out presentations unique to each workshop. Workshops in the "Tech Days Workshop" series will be held on Tuesday, September 18 in Rice Lake; Wednesday, **September 19 in Wausau**; and Thursday, September 20 in Black River Falls. There are currently 28 people registered to attend the Tech Days Workshop in Wausau. Registrants are from libraries in WVLS, IFLS and NWLS. More information about the "Tech Days Workshop" series may be found at: <https://wvls.org/tech-days/>.

"**Responding to Active Threat in the Workplace**" will be held from 9:30 am-12:30 pm on Thursday, **October 4**, at the Chippewa Valley Technical College in **Neillsville**. Participants will learn actions to take when confronted by an active shooter, learn how to cause distraction, and establish proper practices in these situations. Registration and more information can be found on the WVLS Continuing Education page. <https://wvls.org/continuing-education/>.

A webinar on "**Apps and Beyond: Low-Cost Technology for Your Patrons and Library**" will be held at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, **October 17**. Guest speaker **Kris Turner**, Head of Reference at the University of Wisconsin Law School Library, will talk about the best apps for productivity, for fun, and for security. More information and registration information can be found here: <https://wvls.org/apps-explored-in-october-webinar/>.

Area youth services staffs are invited to attend the **November 8 "WVLS Annual Youth Service Workshop"** in the MCPL Community Room. **Linda Jerome**, La Crosse Public Library Teen Librarian, will present on whole-person librarianship and successful programming for teens in the morning. **Special Agent Theodore (Theo) Indermuehle**, from the WI DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation Office, will present "Toddlers to Teens: Keeping Kids Safe in Apps and Online." **Julie Belongy**, Director of the Thorp Public Library, will end the day with a presentation on the Thorp Public Library 2018 PLA Inclusive Internship experience. More information about the workshop is shared in this report as **Exhibit 11-b**.

Libraries WIN Website Service

Anne Hamland hosted the first **Libraries WIN website co-work day** on May 17 at the Indianhead Federated Library System office in Eau Claire. Approximately 20 people, representing both systems, were in attendance. The second co-work day will take place **October 18** at the **Thorp Public Library**. Topics will include accessibility, search engine optimization, library messaging, maintenance, design, and a new WordPress design editor. Find more information on the Libraries WIN website at <http://wvls.org/websiteresources/>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- “IMLS Public Library Survey: Program Attendance, Collection Size, Digital Materials Up; Visits, Circ Down”; *Library Journal*; August 31, 2018 (<https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=180904-IMLS-Public-Library-Survey>)
Note: Included are state profiles for Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin (**Exhibit 11-c**)
- “2017 Act 150 Allows Cities, Counties to Remove Trustees at Will”; WI Libraries for Everyone Blog; August 16, 2018 (<https://dpi.wi.gov/wilibrariesforeveryone/2017-act-150-allows-cities-counties-remove-trustees-will>) and “Removal of Officers; Governing Body Procedures and the Recall Procedure”; *The Municipality*; August 2018; pgs. 19-22 (<http://www.lwm-info.org/DocumentCenter/View/2161/8-18-FINAL-ELECTION-ENGAGEMENT>) (**Exhibit 11-d**)
- “The 2018 Mindset List for the Class of 2022” (<http://themindsetlist.com/2018/08/beloit-college-mindset-list-class-2022/>) (**Exhibit 11-e**)
- “Voter Education and Registration Assistance Project (VERAP) comes to the Northwoods” (**Exhibit 11-f**)
- “To Restore Civil Society, Start With the Library”; *New York Times*; September 8, 2018; <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/08/opinion/sunday/civil-society-library.html> (**Exhibit 11-g**)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 3 – Labor Day; WVLS office closed
- September 4 – V-Cat Statistical Reports training (Matczak, Mroczenski)
- September 6 – **WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** (Schulz, Mroczenski, Hamland)
- September 6 – Reception to Honor Antigo Public Library’s Donation to the WVLS Overdrive Advantage Collection; WVLS Office; (Hamland, Sepnafski, Klingbeil, Hildebrand, Schulz, Hafemeister, Lao)
- September 6 – **WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circulation** meeting (Schulz)
- September 7 – Technology Service Call; Withee (Klingbeil, Lao)
- September 11 – **WVLS YSIE (Youth Services Information Exchange)**; Merrill (Hamland)
- September 12-15 – Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference; Illinois (Matczak)
- September 13 – PLSR Steering Committee meeting; Kilbourn Public Library
- September 13 – Taylor County Finance Committee meeting (Sepnafski)
- September 14 – Hennepin County Literacy Centers tour (Hamland)
- September 14 – COLAND meeting; Beloit (Lay)
- September 15 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting**; WVLS office (Sepnafski, Wendt, Klingbeil, Hildebrand, Hamland, Schulz)
- September 18 – Tech Days West Workshop; Rice Lake (Hamland)
- September 18 – Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Committee meeting; De Forest
- September 19 – **WVLS “Tech Days (West) Workshop”**; MCPL (Matczak, Sepnafski)
- September 19 – WiscNet Advisories to the Membership – Next Generation Leaders; Madison (Klingbeil)
- September 19 – ETF Dual Choice Health Insurance Kick-Off; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 20 – Tech Days West Workshop; Black River Falls
- September 20 – SOMBAW meeting; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 20 – WLA Conference Planning Committee meeting (Hamland, Matczak)
- September 20 – Owen Public Library/Fremond WiFi Park Grand Opening; Owen (Sepnafski)
- September 22 – NWLS Board of Trustees meeting; Ashland (Matczak)
- September 23-29 – BANNED BOOKS WEEK
- September 25 – **WVLS Staff meeting**

- September 27 – Technology Staff meeting with MCPL (Klingbeil, Schulz, Lao, Sepnafski)
- October 1 – V-Cat Statistical Reports training (Matczak, Mroczenski)
- October 1 – Oneida County Library Board budget meeting; Rhinelander (Sepnafski)
- October 3 – 2nd Annual “Building SMART(er) Communities Symposium”; Stevens Point (Klingbeil)
- October 4 – **WVLS “Responding to Active Threat in the Workplace” workshop**; Neillsville (Matczak; Sepnafski)
- October 4 – **WVLS Staff Meeting**
- October 11 – **WVLS V-Cat Bib Committee meeting**; MCPL (Schulz, Mroczenski)
- October 11-12 – Minnesota Library Association Conference; St. Cloud, MN (Hamland)
- October 17 – **WVLS “Apps & Beyond” webinar** (Matczak)
- October 18 – **IFLS/WVLS Webmaster Co-Work Day**; Thorp (Hamland)
- October 23 – SRLAAW meeting; LaCrosse
- October 23 – WPLC Board meeting; LaCrosse (Hamland)
- October 23-26 – WLA Annual Conference; LaCrosse (Hamland, Klingbeil, Matczak, Schulz, Sepnafski, Wendt)
- October 26 – WisCat User Group meeting (Mroczenski)
- November 1 – **WVLS V-Cat Council meeting**; MCPL (Schulz, Mroczenski)
- **November 1 – WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee meeting; MCPL (Schulz, Mroczenski)**
- November 1 – **WVLS Adult Services Summit**; MCPL (Hamland)
- November 4 – DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ends
- November 8 – **WVLS “Youth Services” workshop**; MCPL (Hamland, Matczak)
- November 9 – COLAND meeting; Kaukauna
- November 13 – **WVLS Listening Session**; Westboro (Hafemeister, Hamland, Klingbeil, Schulz, Sepnafski)
- November 13 – **WVLS Staff meeting**; Westboro (Hafemeister, Hamland, Klingbeil, Schulz, Sepnafski)
- November 13-15 – National Marketing Conference; St. Louis (Matczak)
- November 14 – “State of the State” Annual System Directors Meeting; De Forest (Sepnafski)
- November 15 – Oneida County Library Board meeting (Wendt)
- November 15 – **WVLS/Clark County Public Libraries’ “Workshop for Directors”**; Thorp (Hamland)
- November 16 – WLA’s Library Development and Legislation Committee meeting; Madison (Wendt)
- November 17 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting**; WVLS office (Sepnafski, Wendt, Klingbeil, Hildebrand, Matczak, Hamland, Schulz)

Respectfully,

Marla