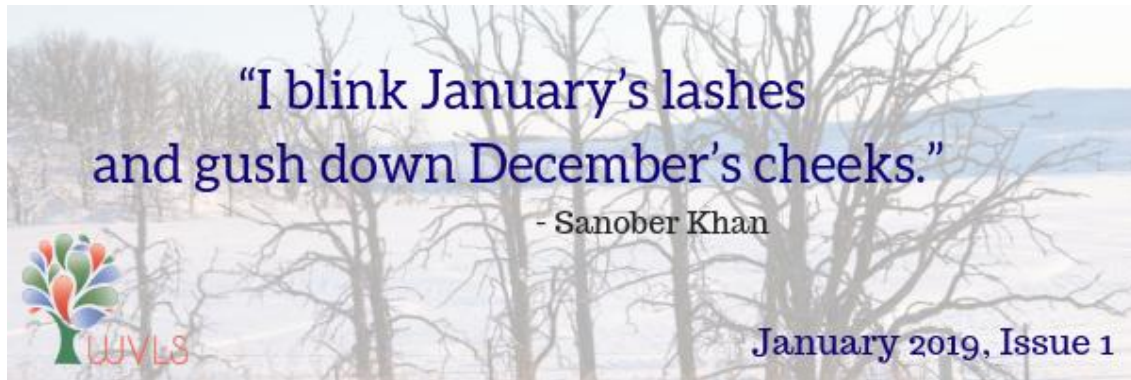


Wisconsin Valley Library Service



Continuing Education in January



Rethinking Programming (webinar)

Wednesday, Jan. 9; 1 pm

.5 contact hours

Presented by: Heidi O'Hare

Programming plays a large role in our libraries. It is a “material,” and personal justification in our budgets. How do we justify the programming expenses, provide a variety of content, and increase the appeal to all age groups? This webinar will look at the elements that affect our communities and connect with the “Libraries = Strong Communities” theme for National Library Week 2019. In the end, using programming, we will discover how we can partner, plan, and provide for our community.

[Register](#)



The Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference
January 23-24, 2019

Fourteen sessions will be available in 4 different tracks, including Library Leadership, Marketing,

Small and Mighty, and Youth Services. [Registration is now open](#) on the conference website.



What I Wish I Had Known: Reflections of a Public Library Director (webinar)

Thursday, Jan. 31; 1 pm

.5 Contact Hours

Presented by: Teresa Miniatt

Starting out in library management is a learning and burning-out journey for a new director. Sometimes solutions can be hard and sometimes they are easy. But every librarian has some experience with the “if only I had known!” feeling. Using her diverse experience in various types of libraries, Teresa will examine some philosophical and practical ways in which new library directors can better serve their staff and communities.

[Register](#)

WVLS Wishes Staff Well in Retirement



A Retirement Reception was held on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at the WVLS Office for Ann Mroczenski and Augo Hildebrand.

WVLS staff, board members, past staff and member librarians gathered to wish both Ann and Augo well in their upcoming retirements.

Ann has provided Technology Support in cataloging and circulation for WVLS for over 40 years. Her last day at WVLS will be on Friday, Jan. 4.

Augo has been the WVLS Business Manager for 8 years. Her last day at WVLS was on Friday, Dec. 28.

We'll miss you, Ann and Augo!

MCPL Completes Second Round of LENA Start



The second round of LENA Start Marathon County is complete, with 33 total families graduating in early December! Using a combination of parent education classes, talking tips, and “talk pedometers,” parents of children ages 0-32 months made a commitment to invest in their baby’s future. Eighty percent of a baby’s brain grows in the first three years of life. The biggest way to grow a baby’s brain is through reading and talking. Books have a wide range of vocabulary and also offer an opportunity for conversational turns, or the “back and forth” conversation between a child and a caregiver.

Marathon County Public Library hosted one of four sites and had 12 families graduate from the library cohort. The group met Thursday evenings for a total of 13 weeks. The group bonded over their children, shared a meal, and learned about brain development and how to talk with their child more. A lot of the parents reported their child’s language development had grown since starting the program. LENA Start Marathon County will be having spring sessions, and any parent of a child 0-32 months can participate for free.

The photo is from the graduation ceremony, which was held in December. If you want to learn more about LENA Start, call 715-848-1457.

Library Resolutions



A new year means time for new resolutions. We know of the typical ones - to lose weight, to exercise more, to take more time for ourselves, to take that vacation.

There are also resolutions for the library. Here are some that were shared with us:

"To remove the unsightly paperback wire racks purchased in the 1990s."

- Laurie Olhoff, T.B. Scott Free Library

"To review library policies that are over 5 years old."

- Dominic Frandrup, Antigo Public Library

"To weed the non-fiction section, so we can remove any books that refer to outdated technology or science."

-Tammie Blomberg, Rib Lake Public Library

"To keep my office more organized, but not too organized, so as not to give the impression that I'm not busy."

- Annette Miller, Tomahawk Public Library

What is your library resolution?

I & C Literacy Grant Applications Being Accepted

To support literacy for all library users of Wisconsin Valley Library Service member libraries, a \$20,000 grant will be provided to partnering WVLS libraries to create a space in their libraries where families can talk, read, sing, write, and play together. Libraries are literacy centers in communities. Libraries fight the 30 million word gap and the summer slide with storytimes, summer programs, educational programs, activities, guest speakers, special programming, reader's advisory, robust collections and more. Family spaces filled with fun,

literacy-based activities and quality information can be a relevant and impactful resource for a community.

[Please visit the WVLS Scholarships and Grants web page](#), for more information, and to download a grant application. Applications will be accepted until Feb. 1, 2019.

Want something featured in the February newsletter or are you doing something in your library that you want to share?

Contact Jamie @ jmatczak@wvls.org.

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