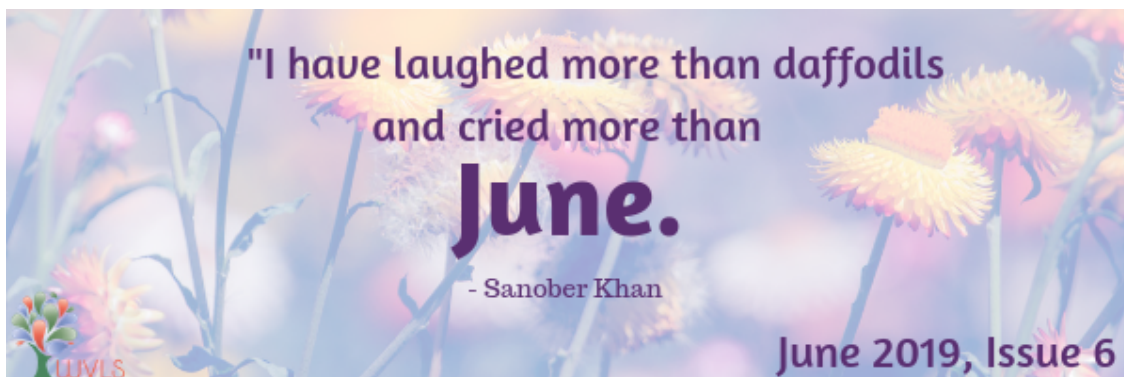


## Wisconsin Valley Library Service



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### Registration Open for Trustee Training Week



Registration is now open for [Trustee Training Week](#) on Aug. 12-16.

There is a great line-up of speakers this year including: Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Pat Wagner, Dawn Wacek, Connie Meyer and Kathy Pletcher, and Shauna Koszegi. They will be covering topics ranging from going fine-free to recruiting and retaining library directors.

All webinars will take place that week at 1 p.m. The webinars will be recorded and archived.

Please share this information with your library trustees and friends groups.

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### Klingbeil Had Early Passion for Technology



Joshua Klingbeil vividly remembers his family's first computer.

"It was an IBM PS/2 Model 30," he said. "I was seven years old, and that was the first computer my family

owned. But, I had already used a computer at the library.”

While playing computer games such as “Math Blaster” and “Civilization” were fun, what Joshua enjoyed doing most was understanding how the computer worked. “I would ‘break it’ and then fix it to make it work again,” Joshua said. “That was exciting and fun for me. My parents encouraged me a lot along the way.”

This excitement early on for fixing computers is what led Joshua to doing tech support as an adult and as the WVLS Chief Information Officer for the last 10 years. Even with all of his experience, he understands that using technology in the library can be intimidating.

“I tell librarians that this fear of technology is a common experience, and they aren’t alone,” he said. “There is often embarrassment and negative feelings in using technology, so I try to deflate that bubble of negativity.”

Joshua said one tactic is training multiple staff on troubleshooting issues, so they can support one another. This also helps staff open up and let go of technology fears.

While Joshua and WVLS do a lot of technology support remotely, he is always available to libraries to identify problems and assist. He also recognizes the value for libraries to be part of a larger consortium when it comes to technology.

“The biggest value is being able to leverage the economy of scale,” he said. “We actively work to shape that. We can purchase equipment in better quantities, get better deals in licensing, and centralize our server, as a few examples.”

Joshua loves seeing projects build, such as LEAN Wisconsin. “I am an engineer at the core,” he said. “A big part of that is the desire to not just ‘build the thing,’ but to see it come to fruition and witness the benefit. To see the work being consumed is rewarding.”

Although technology projects can be robust and overwhelming, Joshua enjoys the work he does.

“The professional development and goals that working with libraries provide is important to me,” he said. “And, the people at WVLS and in our member libraries are so positive. That is a big reason I love what I do.”

You can submit a Help Desk ticket to Joshua at [help@librarieswin.org](mailto:help@librarieswin.org). He can also be reached at 715-261-7253 or [cio@wvls.org](mailto:cio@wvls.org).

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## Save the Date For Fall Events



Along with the WVLS Director's Retreat happening on Thursday, Sept. 26 (more information coming this summer), there are several exciting events happening this fall.

- Marketing the Value of Your Library: This webinar series will be presented by three marketing experts in the library field. A webinar will be presented at 1 p.m. on Oct. 1, 15 and 29. More information will be available later this month.
  - Tech Days: Similar to last fall, three workshops with a technology focus will happen in western Wisconsin on Nov. 5-7. The workshop held in Wausau will be Wednesday, Nov. 6. Registration is set to open in July.
  - The second Listening Session of 2019 will be held from 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Antigo Public Library. Library directors or a proxy are welcome to meet with WVLS staff to ask questions, share ideas, or mention concerns.
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## WAPL Attendees Visit MCPL



The annual Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference was held in Rothschild on May 1-3.

One of the evening activities scheduled was to visit the Marathon County Public Library.

Adult Services Librarian Julie Kinney gave the visiting library staff a tour. Angela Meyers of the Bridges Library System and WAPL Conference Chair-Elect took some photos and wrote about the tour in her blog, "Diary of a PLA Liaison."

Angela took photos of the "Random Acts of Kindness" area in the Tween Scene, and shared photos of the new Early Literacy Center.

You can read Angela's post and see her pictures on ["When In Town, Visit the Library."](#)

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### Thorp Sustains Successful Partnership



It's been at least five years of a great partnership between the Thorp School District and the Thorp Public Library to create exciting and successful Summer Library Programs.

During a tight budget year, a Library Board member (who is a kindergarten teacher at the public school) suggested that the library offer the Summer Library Program as a summer school course through the school. She said she would be willing to organize and facilitate the program. It's become a win-win partnership!

The school covers the cost of supplies and materials for the students and pays the instructor's wage. The library coordinates with the instructor, provides materials from the Collaborative Summer Program, and reserves two performers.

With this partnership, the library benefits from a larger audience and wider participation with increased circulation and lower costs. The school benefits from a highly popular program with many students to count for their funding purposes. And best of all, the kids in Thorp have access to a high quality, entertaining and educational summer library program.

For more information on this program, contact the Thorp Public Library at 715-669-5953.

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*Thorp Public Library and its director, Julie Beloungy, were featured in the DPIConnectEd Blog in a post called, ["Sustain Learning Over the Summer with Libraries."](#)*

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**Want something featured in the July newsletter?  
Is your library doing something that you want to share?  
Contact Jamie @ [jmatczak@wvls.org](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org).**

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