

Director's Report
WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 16, 2019

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Rachel Metzler, husband Fred and daughter Mackenzie, welcomed baby girl **Elizabeth Leslie Metzler** on Friday, November 9. Mom and baby are doing well!

WVLS CIO Director **Joshua Klingbeil** was promoted to WVLS Assistant Director effective November 4, 2019.

Cara Hart, Neillsville Public Library Director, will be leaving that position to take over as director of the Black River Falls Public Library. She graciously offered to continue to mentor Thorp Public Library Director **Anne Kuipers** through the duration of the process, and WVLS accepted her offer. **Ruby Wenzel** announced her resignation as director of the Western Taylor County Public Library (Gilman) as well.

Steph Morrill, Director of WiLS, announced she plans to step away from the position near the end of February 2020. WiLS (formerly Wisconsin Library Services) is a non-profit membership organization that facilitates collaborative projects and services on behalf of their members which are primarily libraries.

Claire Tidwell, Makerspace and Programming Librarian at the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library (Whitewater) was featured in October's *Library Journal* magazine as a "Next Gen Librarian."
<https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=Next-Gen-Librarians-LIS-and-Careers>

Madison Public Library's staff from "**The Bubbler**" will team up with Anythink Libraries (Adams County, Colorado) to present as a special event at the 2020 Public Library Association Conference in Nashville, TN. "The Bubbler" is a Madison Public Library program that connects artists to the community through free, hands-on making, exhibitions, and community events. Bubbler team members **Carlee Latimer** and **Rebecca Millerjohn**, and previous Bubbler artist-on-resident, **Bird Ross**, were featured in the WVLS workshop "The Bubbler Makes Over WVLS" in May.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Division Invites Feedback Prior to Filling Vacancies

With John Debacher's retirement at the end of this month, the Division for Libraries and Technology (DLT) anticipates filling vacancies in the first quarter of 2020. To make the best possible decisions that focus on the libraries, systems and citizens served by DPI, Assistant State Superintendent **Kurt Kiefer**, is inviting feedback from the greater library community. If you have any thoughts about the future direction of DLT, please feel free to contact Kurt at kurt.kiefer@dpi.wi.gov or 608/266-2205.

Study Cites Lack of Time and Staff Coverage as Barriers to Professional Development

The Wisconsin Public Library Development Team, with the assistance of WiLS, recently performed a statewide assessment of barriers to participation in professional development opportunities by public library staff throughout Wisconsin. Part of this assessment included reaching out to library directors, system consultants, and professional development leaders in other states. **Jamie Matczak** was interviewed by Melissa McLimans (WiLS) in July.

The summary of the report indicates that, “the biggest barrier to participation in CE was nearly unanimous – lack of time and lack of adequate staff coverage. This, of course, takes different forms. Library directors have many competing job duties and prioritizing CE often comes at the cost of another responsibility; libraries on average are open more hours and have fewer FTE hours than 10 years ago; and libraries in smaller, more rural locations face the double burden of having very few staff members to cover for CE participation and often have farther to travel to attend in-person events.”

Jamie and continuing education consultants from other systems will be attending a meeting in Stevens Point on November 18 to talk about this report and further state initiatives.

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) News

In October, WVLS announced that beginning November 1, 2019, WPLC and all WPLC Advantage accounts should not purchase any embargoed Macmillan ebook titles. Between November 1 and December 20, the WPLC will further discuss and research options and have a plan of action by the end of this time. For additional WPLC news see the WPLC Board Month Update; October 2019 (**EXHIBIT 11-a**).

Members Selected for Inaugural BadgerLink Advisory Group

Shahara Falk-LeFay, Marathon County Public Library Athens Branch, was recently selected to participate in the inaugural BadgerLink Advisory Group. Selected from a pool of 39 applicants, Shahara and nine other individuals were selected: Duong Duong, Hmong American Peace Academy; Karen L Howell, School District of Shell Lake; Kay Koepsel-Benning, Elmbrook Schools; Renee Laird-Adelon, Milwaukee Public Schools; Zander Miller, Kenosha Public Library; Julie Pohlman, University of Wisconsin System Administration; Katie Roberts, Wisconsin Technical College system; Julie Schultz, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin; and Julie Waggoner, Northland College. With support from LSTA funding from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, the BadgerLink Advisory Group’s charge is to develop strategies to adapt and grow the BadgerLink program as needs evolve. The initial meeting for this group is planned for the end of November.

CORRESPONDENCE

***New!* Wisconsin Public Library Email List**

Developed by WiLS on behalf of the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC), the Wisconsin Public Library Email list is now up and running. This list replaces DPI’s Google Communities and the former WISPUBLIB as a forum for public library staff, board, and Friends to exchange information. Complete information about the list, including subscribing/unsubscribing and some protocol about sending to the list, may be found at <https://wplc.info/wispublib>.

WVLS Board Appointments

Five WVLS trustees have terms set to expire at the end of the year: **Christy Janczewski** (Forest County), **Diane Peterson** (Lincoln County), **Jim Backus** and **Kari Sweeney** (Marathon County) and **Paul Knuth** (Oneida County). Notifications were sent to the clerks in those counties in mid-October.

2020 WVLS-SWLS Webinar Partnership Acknowledgement

The **Southwest Library System** (SWLS) will partner with WVLS in 2020 to provide continuing education webinars of interest to member libraries. As part of the partnership, WVLS will develop 7-10 webinars on behalf of libraries in both systems; answer any program-related questions from SWLS member colleagues; provide SWLS with Continuing Education Activity Sheets, attendance records and survey results for each webinar; and develop a survey with SWLS and the Northern Waters Library Service to distribute to member libraries in August 2020.

Audit of 2019 Financial Records

Dan Trudgeon from **KerberRose SC** sent WVLS a 2019 Engagement Letter to review and sign. The engagement letter outlines the services KerberRose SC will provide as part of the audit, audit procedures and responsibilities of WVLS. The gross fee to complete the 2019 audit of WVLS financial records will not exceed \$8,300.00.

Notes of Appreciation

Mary Jo Netzer, Stratford Branch Coordinator, and **Taylor Weinfurter**, Youth Services Librarian (MCPL), sent **Anne Hamland** notes of thanks for her support and ideas following a youth services consult. **Jamie Matczak** also received a note from Greenwood Public Library Director **Kim Metzke** thanking her for keeping her informed and learning what she needs to do her job. Several area colleagues expressed appreciation to **Rachel Metzler** for editing receipts for items checked out to include the amount saved at the bottom of receipts, and for adding bibliographic records to the V-Cat database for 2020 magazines.

Kristie Hauer, Shawano County Library Director, sent a card to **Marla Sepnanski** stating, *“Thank you so much for the invite to the recent WVLS Director’s Retreat. It was a great day of learning and a wonderful opportunity to interact with other library directors from outside my own system. **You have an excellent staff that set the bar high!**”* Kristie also sent Jamie an email regarding the Breakout EDU kits WVLS makes available for WVLS and IFLS Library System members saying *“I got super-excited to see you have the Breakout EDU kit for libraries that want to do escape room programming. Your librarians can feel free to pick Nancy and Paige’s brains if that is helpful for escape room programs. They have a TON of plans that could be shared with other librarians and adapted to fit different libraries. We could also present our workshop to librarians or if anyone wanted to tour/experience our escape room in Shawano we could arrange for that.”*

Jamie Matczak received feedback from **Kristina Kelley-Johnson**, Grantsburg Public Library Director, regarding a recent NFLS/SWLS/WVLS webinar. Kristina stated, *“I just viewed the recording *How (and Why) to Do a Simple External Communications Audit*. Lots of good stuff there. Thanks for bringing that webinar to us.”* Also, **Kathy Dempsey**, one of the presenters for the NWLS/SWLS/WVLS marketing webinar series sent Jamie a note thanking her for *“... caring enough about marketing and advocacy to feature them in a series. It was a great idea, well-executed. And thanks for inviting me (and my esteemed colleagues) to be a part of this.”*

Recent WVLS Digital Bytes, “Free Stock Photos” and “MailChimp” by **Jamie Matczak**, and “Print Friendly” by **Anne Hamland** were recently shared in South Central Library System’s “Tech Bits: Bits of Technology for Your Library”.

Information Shared with MCPL Board of Trustees

During the Marathon County Public Library Board meeting in September, WVLS expressed concerns regarding MCPL Administration’s investigation of joining the South Central Library System. Following the September meeting, MCPL Board President **Sharon Hunter** sent Marla Sepnanski a letter which stated *“I want to let you know that the Board of Trustees is only investigating the idea of the Marathon County Public Library moving to a different service area. We are moving very cautiously and want to make sure we have all the information to make a sound, informed decision. Therefore, we would like to invite you to be on the agenda at our Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, December 16, at 12:00 p.m. to present information on WVLS.”*

Marla sent a letter of response on October 17 which indicated that [WVLS] appreciated her reassurance that the MCPL Board was only investigating the idea of moving the library to a different service area; [WVLS] hoped the MCPL Board would endorse MCPL trustee Katie Rosenberg’s recommendation to create a task force to study this matter in more detail; and thanked her for the opportunity in December to share information about WVLS.

During the October 21 meeting of the MCPL Board, WVLS consultants Jamie Matczak, Anne Hamland and Rachel Metzler presented the diverse ways in which the system collaborates with other public library systems across the state to provide service. Copies of Jamie’s introductory comments (**EXHIBIT 11-b**) as well as the presentation on WVLS collaborations (**EXHIBIT 11-c**) are shared with this report.

Also during this meeting, staff and representatives of the South Central Library System presented on the services its system provides to member libraries, and the MCPL Board approved the formation of a task force whose charge will be to study this issue in more detail and to clarify the needs of MCPL and the patrons it serves. Members of the task force include MCPL Board President **Sharon Hunter**, **Gary Beastrum** and **MiaGer Moua**.

Earlier in November, WVLS Board President **Tom Bobrofsky** sent a letter to the MCPL Director inviting him to attend an upcoming meeting of the WVLS Board to share his concerns about services received from WVLS. A copy of the letter (**EXHIBIT 11-d**) was also shared with each member of the MCPL Board.

DPI Response to Questions Raised Regarding Standards for Public Library Systems

Marla Sepnafski contacted DPI for an interpretation/confirmation of the language in Wis. Stat. 43.15(1)(a) regarding standards for public library systems and the impact to WVLS should Marathon County decide to withdraw its membership. The response from Shannon Schulz, Public Library Administration Consultant of DPI’s Public Library Development Team was: *“We have reviewed the language and legislative history behind the statute that pertains to this issue and we agree that, while your system population would drop below 200,000, your number of counties would allow you to continue as a system despite Marathon County’s departure. (2005 Wisconsin Act 420 Section 3).”*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Voter Registration - Get Ready for 2020!

The WVLS partnership with the League of Women Voters of the Northwoods (LWVNOW) was featured in a Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) Annual Conference program called ***Get Ready for 2020! Voter Education and Registration Assistant Project*** on October 10. Panelists were Debra Durchslag and Yolana Misteles from LWVNOW, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill) Assistant Director **Laurie Ollhoff**, and **Kris Adams Wendt** from WVLS. The presentation was one of four sessions to be live streamed and archived on the WLA YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnbMoWodvTc (See **EXHIBIT 11-e** for the feature article about the LWVNOW and WVLS partnership in the statewide September 2019 newsletter.)

Plan to Attend Library Legislative Day in 2020

WLA’s Library Legislative Day will be held at the Madison Concourse Hotel on February 11, 2020. (See **EXHIBIT 11-f** for copy of the registration form.) The deadline to register is January 17. Appointments may be requested for up to 6 legislators, starting with the Senator and Assembly Representative corresponding to each registrant’s voting address. To confirm correct legislators, enter a voting address at <http://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov>. **Clark County:** Senator Bernier and either Rep. James or Rep. Kulp. **Forest County:** Senator Tiffany and either Rep. Swearingen or Rep. Mursau. **Langlade and Lincoln Counties:** Senator Tiffany and Rep. Felzkowski. **Marathon County:** Either Senator Bernier or Senator Petrowski and either Rep. Kulp, Rep. Snyder, Rep. Spiros or Rep. Edming. **Oneida County:** Senator Tiffany and either Rep. Swearingen or Rep. Felzkowski. **Taylor County:** Senator Petrowski and Rep. Edming.

WVLS PROJECTS

Invitation to Speak at SCLS Photography Workshop

Jamie Matczak was asked by **Jean Anderson** of the South Central Library System to do a 60-minute presentation on Thursday, Nov. 21, for SCLS member library directors on Library Marketing, with a focus on photography. Jamie will cover general photo-taking tips, best practices for posting photos on Facebook and Instagram, and some of her favorite photo editing apps.

Collaboration Development

New! LEAN WI partners are working with an interested Library System to determine if mutual interests and benefits align for a virtualization capacity consumer relationship (similar to the ILS hosting relationship with NWLS prior to their joining up as a partner in 2019) or potentially full technology resource sharing partnership.

Also, **Joshua Klingbeil** is looking into working more through the LEAN WI partnership to enhance strong engagements between ILS admins and teams in each partner system and to continue the growth of collaborative engagement with other Sierra ILS admins and teams throughout the State.

Configuration Manager Deployments

LEAN WI leveraged 2018 LSTA technology grant funds made available by DPI in early 2019 to procure Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (MS SCCM) client management licensing. This licensing and the SCCM application technology enable LEAN WI partnership to extend computer management capabilities via our common Active Directory forest, **bring us that much closer to a more unified management capability across the roughly 100 member libraries served.** Two pilot sites in IFLS have had full deployments with successful testing thus far, the IFLS office has undergone deployment, and deployment to staff computers throughout IFLS members continues. Deployments will extend to WVLS and NWLS offices and staff computers at member libraries soon after IFLS is completed.

Youth Services Update

Anne Hamland is in the process of scheduling conversations with all member public librarians serving youth. These conversations drive WVLS decisions for services in areas of continuing education, workshop themes, youth services information exchange (YSIE) topics, scholarships and grant development, while providing an opportunity for personal and professional support for WVLS librarians.

Anne and members of the Wisconsin Library Association's **Youth Services Section (YSS)** celebrated a successful WLA annual conference that included several sessions devoted to youth services topics, author luncheon, social for youth services staff, exhibit booth and activities, and well-attended YSS annual meeting. She also continues to announce YSS information and publish monthly YSS emails sent to librarians across the state and to coordinate the YSS social media presence as lead member of the YSS Marketing Subcommittee.

Demmer Library's Strategic Planning Process

Jamie Matczak and **Marla Sepnanski** attended two additional meetings of the Demmer Memorial Library's (Three Lakes) Strategic Planning Workgroup. With the completion of the last meeting, the "first phase" of this Workgroup's charge to develop a strategic plan for the library is winding down. WVLS will use the information and tools shared in this workgroup's process to develop a "Strategic Planning Toolkit" and assist the Antigo Public Library to develop a strategic plan. The next meeting of the Strategic Planning Workgroup is November 21.

V-Cat Project Update

Highlights of the November 7 V-Cat Council meeting include:

- Chairperson **Tammie Blomberg** called for volunteers to participate on a **Voting Models Exploratory Committee**. She will appoint volunteers prior to next meeting of the V-Cat Council.
- On behalf of the V-Cat Council, **Ashley Polinski** (Rhineland District Library) was selected to attend the IUG (Innovative Users Group) Conference in Minneapolis in 2020. Tammie Blomberg will serve as her backup.
- The V-Cat Council selected **iTiva** to procure/implement with the understanding that WVLS will continue follow-up research on another product, ShoutBomb, in the event the timeline of iTiva procurement allows for a product review and reassessment by the February 2020 meeting of the Council.
- **Rachel Metzler's** Sierra Snack on "fines payment blocking" was well received.

Library Renovation Projects

The **Western Taylor County Public Library** (Gilman) is nearing completion for its renovation project to expand existing facilities. Consultation regarding technology considerations integral to the project continue, mostly as construction issues come up which need fine tuning. WVLS is holding a tentative schedule during the week of November 18 for **Joshua Klingbeil** and **Ash Ben Khalifa** to go onsite for network equipment reconnections and to assist with computer and printer reconnects in the new area(s).

The **Milltown Public Library** project status is still unknown at time of writing. The library went through a change in directorship during the summer. Consultation regarding technology considerations integral to the project remains available as needed. Follow up with IFLS staff and the Milltown Public Library leadership is in progress.

Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) Project

In early November, **Anne Hamland** and IFLS Library System's Library Development and Youth Services Consultant **Leah Langby** met with **Jon Menz**, Chief Executive Officer of the Workforce Development Board of West Central Wisconsin, to discuss opportunities for marketing and sharing a recently developed training module "Workforce Development Board's Roles and Responsibilities". They also brainstormed on how to gather and introduce Job Center staff with library staff in spring 2020. Anne continues to communicate with the two other Workforce Development regions in the WVLS area to determine how best to distribute the content and introduce libraries to Job Center staff in their areas.

Collaborative Backup Project

Capital is awaiting scheduling from Dell to install in LEAN WI rack 2 at the LEAN WI datacenter in Eau Claire. IFLS Library System IT Director **Kris Schwartz** is gently leading the LEAN WI and South Central Library System (SCLS) configuration planning efforts.

BadgerNet circuit upgrades have been requested by SCLS and by LEAN WI to move to 10Gbps servicing. Due to the partnership co-tenancy in the LEAN WI datacenter, LEAN WI partners have access to an additional BadgerNet circuit (holding at 1Gbps service) which could be upgraded and utilized as well if capacity needs demand.

Discussion and planning have been initiated with WiscNet to upgrade one or both exiting 1Gbps internet transit interconnects to 10Gbps or possibly 25Gbps interconnects. This discussion and plan of action set will likely break into multiple sub projects, including the possible restructuring of NWLS internet transitioning to

allow for more efficient use of the NWLS head-end BadgerNet circuit to connect NWLS offices with the LEAN WI datacenter.

New LEAN WI Partner: Northern Waters Library Service Onboarding

Progress continues. **Tony Kriskovich**, Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) Technology Support Specialist, now has an intern, **Eric Kontny** to assist with computer replacements and network equipment replacements at member sites. NWLS hopes to be able to transition Eric from limited hours as an intern to full time tech support employee once he graduates in Spring 2020. There is still a lot of work to be done and this “onboarding” process will be a continuing project well into 2020.

Virtualization Infrastructure Upgrades

The SAN upgrades are completed! The new appliance is installed and configured with all or nearly all production services having now been migrated. New core switches have been ordered and are expected to be delivered mid-November. By including the cabling and accessories, LEAN WI was able to procure the core switches at approximately the same cost as the similar switches bundled with the Backup and Archive appliance set. These new switches will replace the pair of core switches currently in production which have operated well for two full lifecycles but do not have the necessary capacity for future efforts.

Marketing Cohort’s Work on Draft Marketing Plan Template Continues

Jamie Matczak continues to meet with members of the statewide Marketing Cohort to develop a marketing plan template for public libraries. Other members of the Cohort working on this plan include **Mark Ibach** (South Central Library System), **Chad Glamann** (Outagamie Waupaca Library System) and **Lori Baumgart** (Nicolet Federated Library System). The goal of this project is to provide all sizes of libraries with an adaptable marketing template that they can use to improve marketing efforts.

The group met in person on August 8, then met online during 4 additional occasions to develop a draft. The draft has been shared with member librarians, as well as Kathy Dempsey, whose work in which the plan is based. The entire cohort will meet on November 22 to edit the plan and possibly look at presenting an introductory webinar in January 2020.

Recap of Database Advisory Group Meeting

The WVLS Database Advisory Group met October 29 to discuss some loose ends about Ancestry Library Edition, the possibility of adding a digital magazine offering, and to begin reviewing the Discovery Catalog. **Rachel Metzler** continues to investigate the usage of Heritage Quest (offered through Badgerlink) and Ancestry, and how the two databases overlap/differ, and costs from various vendors for digital magazine subscriptions. The Database Advisory Group includes **Dominic Frandrup** (Antigo), **Kim Metzke** (Greenwood), **Julie Kinney** (MCPL), **Erica Clarkson** (Medford), **Sarah Maerz** (Merrill), **Ashley Polinski** (Rhineland), and **Rachel Metzler** and **Anne Hamland** (WVLS). The group will meet again in early 2020.

Donations Welcome! WVLS Digital Library Fund

A marketing toolkit that invites donations to the WVLS OverDrive Advantage fund was recently developed by the WVLS OverDrive Advantage Selection Committee and shared with member libraries. (Examples of materials are shared as **EXHIBITS 11-g and 11-h**) The account was founded by a generous grant from WVLS in 2017, but funds are nearly depleted, and now relies on donations from library users and member libraries, and a “holds reduction” rebate from the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium. Members of the WVLS OverDrive Advantage Selection Committee include: Katie Zimmerman (Chair) and Kate Sullivan (MCPL), Cindy Wendt (Minocqua), Jenny Jochimsen (Abbotsford) and Lorelee Petersen (Owen).

Inclusive Services Update

The NWLS/WVLS IDEA (Inclusive, Diversity, Equity and Access) Team will meet on November 19 in Spooner to discuss non-English language promotional materials for summer reading programs, ideas for the LSTA Continuing Education Subaward offered through DPI, the “Toward One Wisconsin” conference in April 2020, and **Laurie Ollhoff’s** (T.B. Scott Library, Merrill) report on the Equity in Action class.

As a result of the rave reviews of the Ryan Dowd training for librarians in working with homeless – and other challenging – populations, and positive review of the free trial, DPI has made Ryan Dowd’s *Librarians Guide to Homelessness* asynchronous online training available to the entire Wisconsin Library Community starting January 1, 2020. System continuing education consultants will meet in mid-November to start planning for this opportunity in their respective regions.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

2019 WVLS Public Library Director’s Retreat a Success!

The WVLS Director’s Retreat was held on Thursday, Sept. 26, at Bunkers at Tribute Golf Course in Wausau. There were 26 library directors in attendance, representing WVLS, NWLS, IFLS and NFLS. The theme, “Maintain and Sustain,” focused on ways the library can remove barriers and become more welcoming, administrative practices and refreshing library spaces, and improving productivity.

The day featured two guest speakers, **Curt Beyler** and **Dr. Brenda Frazier**. Curt has been the Facilities Manager for the Brown County Library for 10 years, and from tips on cleaning furniture to bathrooms, he spoke about ways that libraries can be maintained. Dr. Brenda Frazier, professor of Leadership/Management at several colleges, including Northcentral Technical College, spoke about time management. The day also included table topic sessions hosted by **Jamie Matczak**, **Anne Hamland** and **Sherry Machones**, and a presentation by **Rachel Metzler** on the WVLS professional collection and new makerspace items.

The day was well received. All the table topics received high evaluations in being “practical,” “engaging,” and that “new information was learned.” The guest speakers also received praise. One attendee wrote, “I loved everything about this retreat!” Another said, “I LOVED having library directors from other systems participate.”

“Marketing” Webinars Also Successful!

Co-sponsored by the Northern Waters Library System, Southwest Library System and WVLS, the “Marketing the Value of your Library” webinar series held in October had high attendance and received positive feedback. Presenters for this series included **Kathy Dempsey**, **Jennifer Burke**, and **Patrick Sweeney**. One attendee said, “This webinar provided good advice for my next talk to the local Rotary Club, and it gave me new ideas for interacting with my City Council. EXCELLENT information.”

Cataloging Training

Rachel Metzler and **Kyle Schulz** provided a Z39.50 cataloging training at the Colby Community Library on October 2. This training was attended by 13 area public library directors and staff.

Website Service

Anne Hamland hosted the Fall 2019 Website Co-Workday at the Thorp Public Library on October 23. Fifteen attendees represented three systems (IFLS, NWLS, and WVLS) shared their website, explored new designs, completed maintenance tasks, and focused on their website’s mobile display. In late October, Anne began

updating links to all BadgerLink resources on IFLS and WVLS member libraries' WordPress websites that are supported by LEAN WI. This project will be completed by the end of November.

Tech Days Workshops

The Tech Days Workshops were held on November 5-7, with workshop locations in Rice Lake, Wausau and Black River Falls. The Wausau workshop was held on November 6 at Bunkers Bar and Grill. There were 25 attendees representing four different public library systems. Because of the inclement weather that morning, five registrants were unable to attend. The keynote presentation led by **Kris Turner** of the UW-Madison Law Library covered the digital divide and website tips. The breakout sessions in the afternoon covered privacy, databases, productivity tools and IT help. Workshop feedback was positive, with over 90% of the attendees indicating that the material was practical, and they learned about new tools that they planned to start using.

Adult Services Summit Highlights

The WVLS-hosted Adult Services Summit held on November 7 featured a discussion and review by **Anne Hamland** about the Creative Aging workshops held in the Spring of 2019. Also, **Kelly Raddatz**, Minocqua Public Library Outreach Librarian, explained how she became certified to lead the Strong Bodies program and fired up non-traditional programs with local businesses and new collaborations. The gathering finished with attendees sharing how their library is serving adults and what they might try going forward.

WVLS Youth Services Workshop

The ever-popular annual WVLS Youth Services Workshop is slated for December 4 at the Marathon County Public Library. This year's workshop will focus on storytime intentionality, practices, and resources. The morning session will feature speakers **Julia Carlis**, Pleasant Hill Library Manager (Minnesota), and **Mollie Stanford**, Youth Services and Training Regional Librarian, Arrowhead Library System (Minnesota), and [Supercharged Storytimes For All](#) trainer. In the afternoon, WVLS and regional librarians will share their storytime expertise in the areas of sensory friendly considerations, STEAM, nature, music and movement.

2020 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference Receives Support from All Public Library Systems

The list of presentations for the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference was shared with the state CE coordinators in early October, and similar to past years, all 16 library systems are overwhelmingly supporting this year's conference. The cost requested per system is \$222, which includes speaker fees, thank you gifts, webinar captioning, the conference logo, the conference website domain, and the conference website. Support will also be provided by the Wisconsin Department of Instruction (DPI), Public Library Development Team, with funding support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

This year's tracks (see **EXHIBIT 11-i**) will be in Adult Services (**NEW!**), Small Libraries, Library Management (**NEW!**) and Tech Trends. There will be 14 presentations total. Conference registration is set to open the last week of November.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- "Laundromat Libraries Aim to Boost Literacy in Milwaukee" [WUWM]; <https://www.wuwm.com/post/laundromat-libraries-aim-boost-literacy-milwaukee>
- "Janesville Library Considers staffing social worker to help homeless" <https://wkow.com/news/2019/09/10/janesville-library-considers-staffing-social-worker-to-help-homeless/>

Libraries continue to be a place of refuge for those seeking shelter and protection for a wide variety of things ranging from mental health issues to homelessness. In recent years, staffing social workers to

help those in need has become a new effort embraced widely by library system across the country. (10 Sep 2019)

- **“Local Library Breaks Down Barriers”**

<https://www.spectatornews.com/campus-news/2019/09/18/local-library-breaks-down-barriers/>
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library now offers social services to help the homeless.

- **“Penn Yan Library, Yates Add Charging Station, Horse Shelter”**

<https://www.chronicle-express.com/news/20191103/penn-yan-library-yates--add-charging-station-horse-shelter>

“Two new additions to the Penn Yan Public Library grounds will prove convenient to a wide variety of commuters. **A new horse shelter** was installed the week of Oct. 7, while an **electric vehicle charging station** was installed the week of Oct. 14 and will be ready for use by the end of the month. These upgrades are a cooperative effort between the library and Yates County. Mennonite community members are frequent library users, and the new horse shelter will afford them additional convenience while accessing library resources. The attractive brick-red structure suits downtown’s architectural profile, and plans are underway to top it off with a decorative weathervane.

At the other end of the technological spectrum, the charging station promises to offer advantages to the entire community, not just electric car owners.” (ARSL List; Noah Lenstra, Assistant Professor of Library and Information Science, University of North Carolina Greensboro)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 1 - Meeting with West Central WI Workforce Development, Menomonie (Hamland)
- November 5 – IFLS/NWLS/WRLS/WVLS Tech Managers meeting, Eau Claire (Klingbeil)
- November 6 – **“Tech Days – Wausau”** – a WVLS-sponsored workshop, Tribute Golf Course/Bunkers Bar and Grill (Matczak, Metzler, Ben Khalifa)
- November 6 – “Connecting Your Community to 2020 Census Jobs” American Library Association webinar (Hamland)
- November 7 – **WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** (Metzler, Klingbeil, Sepnafski)
- November 7 – **WVLS Adult Services Summit** (Hamland)
- November 8 – COLAND (Council of Library and Network Development) meeting; Wisconsin State Law Library, Madison (Klingbeil)
- November 12 - **IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours** (Hamland)
- November 12-15 – National Library Marketing Conference; St. Louis Missouri (Matczak)
- November 14 – DPI’s Meeting with Public Library System Directors; Mauston (Sepnafski)
- November 14 – Oneida County Library Board meeting; Rhinelander (Wendt)
- November 15 – WLA’s Library Development and Legislation Committee meeting; Madison (Wendt)
- November 16 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Hamland, Hafemeister, Klingbeil, Sepnafski, Wendt)
- November 18 – System CE Consultants meeting, Stevens Point (Matczak)
- November 18 – **WVLS Listening Session**; Wausau (Matczak, Hamland, Klingbeil, Sepnafski)
- November 19 – “PLSR Activities Through Spring 2020: Meeting 1” webinar (Hamland, Sepnafski)
- November 19 – LAWDS (Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills) Super PAC monthly check-in (Hamland)
- November 21 - Strategic Planning meeting; E.U. Demmer Library, Three Lakes (Matczak, Sepnafski)
- November 22 – Public Library System Marketing Cohort meeting, WVLS office (Matczak)
- November 25 - “PLSR Activities Through Spring 2020: Meeting 2” webinar (Hamland, Sepnafski)
- November 28 – Thanksgiving Holiday; WVLS office closed
- November 29 – Day after Thanksgiving Holiday; WVLS office closed

- December 4 – **“Super Storytimes!” WVLS Youth Services workshop**, MCPL (Hamland)
- December 10 - **IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours** (Hamland)
- December 12 - WVLS Public Library Director Orientation, Minocqua (Hamland, Matczak)
- December 13 – **“NWLS Public Library Director Retreat”**, Hayward (Matczak, Machones)
- December 16 – WVLS Presentation to MCPL Board (all staff)
- December 16 – WVLS Staff Inservice (all staff)
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Holiday; WVLS office closed
- December 25 – Christmas Holiday; WVLS office closed
- January 1 – New Year’s Day; WVLS office closed
- January 13 – Public Library System CE Facilitators Meet Up (Matczak)
- January 14 - **IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours** (Hamland)
- January 18 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Hamland, Hafemeister, Klingbeil, Matczak, Metzler, Sepnafski, Wendt)
- January 22-23 – **“2020 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference”** (Matczak)
- January 24 – WLA’s Youth Services Section Board Retreat, Manitowoc Public Library (Hamland)
- February 11 – WLA’s Library Legislative Day, Madison (Wendt)

Happy Thanksgiving and all the best during the upcoming holiday season!

Marla