

Director's Report

WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 25, 2020

CORRESPONDENCE

2020 System Aid

In late November 2019, DPI informed WVLS that our 2020 Plan was approved and that our first (of two) 2020 state aid payments would be released. The first payment of \$681,518 was transferred electronically into a WVLS investment account at that time.

WVLS Board Appointments

WVLS received notifications from Marathon County indicating **Jim Backus** and **Kari Sweeney** had been reappointed to the WVLS Board and from Oneida County that **Paul Knuth** was approved for another term. We expect to hear from Forest County by the end of the month regarding **Christy Janczewski's** reappointment.

WLA Memberships Renewed for WVLS Trustees

Sue Hafemeister completed the 2020 Wisconsin Library Association membership forms for WVLS Board members. The paperwork was sent to the WLA Office on January 17.

Notes of Appreciation

Following an announcement to system colleagues that **Anne Hamland** had created a **NEW** 2020 Census page on the WVLS website and that they were welcome to use and/or share with their member libraries, WVLS received email notes of appreciation from several systems and public libraries. The new website (<https://wvls.org/2020-census/>) includes a census project timeline, social media shares and other resources, and will expand as more information becomes available.

Lisa Haessly, MCPL Marathon City Branch Coordinator, sent **Jamie Matczak** a note of thanks for taking the time to keep her informed of courier-related matters.

Teresa Hall, Loyal Public Library Director, sent **Anne Hamland** a thank you email for the programming she provides for libraries. After last November's WVLS Adult Services Summit, Hall followed up on an idea shared at that event. She contacted her local UW-Extension office and, beginning in February, the library will be hosting a Strong Bodies class. She ended her note saying, "**I appreciate the helpfulness of all the WVLS staff.**"

Rhineland District Library Director **Virginia Roberts** expressed her gratitude to **Marla Sepnafski** for the information shared in the WVLS Director Reports, "*Thank you once again to you and the WVLS staff for sending out clear information and a very complete report and exhibits. These items truly help my staff, BOT, and affiliated organizations know what is happening, going to happen, and needs help to happen in our library and other libraries served by WVLS. Ideas are forged and brought forward. Opportunities are had.*"

Great News! WVLS Receives **Two** Donations to the OverDrive Advantage Fund

In November, the WVLS OverDrive Advantage Selection Committee shared with member libraries a marketing toolkit that invites donations to the WVLS OverDrive Advantage fund. Since then, two donations to the fund were received – a \$100 memorial from the T.B. Scott Library (Merrill) and \$4,547.35 from the E.U. Demmer Memorial Library Foundation (Three Lakes). On behalf of the WVLS staff, Board and OverDrive Advantage

Selection Committee, Anne Hamland sent notes of appreciation to **Stacy Stevens**, T.B. Scott Library Director, and to **Bob Werner**, E.U. Demmer Memorial Library Foundation President, for their generous donations to the WVLS OverDrive Advantage digital library.

Information Shared with MCPL Board of Trustees

During the Marathon County Public Library Board meeting in **November 18, 2019** and as a follow-up to MCPL Director **Ralph Illick's** letter which indicated that MCPL was not aware of any service issues that they seek to resolve at the present time, WVLS Director **Marla Sepnafski** responded that while the WVLS Board was pleased that MCPL did not have any service issues to bring to their attention, they could not help but think that, given the process the MCPL was undertaking, there must be unaddressed issues. If not related to service, then what? Sepnafski reminded the MCPL Board that WVLS staff and two Marathon County representatives on the WVLS Board, **Michael Otten** and **Sonja Ackerman**, were willing to serve on the task force and to lend assistance in whatever manner most helpful.

The presentation by WVLS staff at the **December 16** MCPL Board meeting provided an opportunity to introduce WVLS to them and to reinforce the reasons why WVLS is best suited to support MCPL in providing the finest service possible to Marathon County residents. As WVLS services are not at the heart of the MCPL Board's investigation, the presentation addressed the statement Illick made in his November 8 letter to WVLS Board President **Tom Bobrofsky**: *"We believe that there may be added benefit to our membership [in the South Central Library System], based on factors that would include the potential for collaborating with many other peer-sized libraries, a significantly larger aggregate system collection, and other factors to be explored."* The WVLS presentation shared significant ways in which WVLS collaborates with colleagues across the state and nation to provide service to member libraries; conversations with peer libraries in Green Bay, Milwaukee and Waukesha and their suggestions for collaborating and outreach with colleagues within and outside their respective systems; examples of ways in which WVLS helps member libraries connect with others; and, how WVLS might be able to help MCPL collaborate with peer libraries.

An issue raised by the MCPL Board following the presentation had to do with the library's single vote in the V-Cat Consortium. WVLS CIO Joshua Klingbeil informed them that the V-Cat Council had recently developed a committee to research and analyze voting methodologies.

The December MCPL Board meeting also announced that the meetings of the MCPL Board's Task Force will be scheduled one-hour prior to MCPL Board meetings from January-June 2020. The first meeting of the Task Force will be on Monday January 27, 2020 followed by the MCPL Board meeting at noon.

A WVLS website has been developed to archive correspondence, presentations and other information related to this topic. For additional information, visit <https://wvls.org/mcpl-system-exploration/>.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

The Neillsville Public Library Board hired **Janay Ziebell** as the new director of the library. She replaces **Cara Hart** who left the position to assume the directorship at the Black River Falls Public Library. Janay's first day on the job was Monday, January 6. Also, **Steven Devine Jelinski** has been hired as the new director at the Western Taylor County Public Library (Gilman). He replaces **Ruby Wenzel** who resigned from the position in late 2019.

Marla Sepnafski has been appointed to serve on UW-Madison iSchool's Alumni Board for a one-year term. As the board is made up of alumni from all over the country, most of the board's business will be done remotely.

At its October 2019 meeting, the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC Board) elected **Kristen Anderson**, Winding Rivers Library System Director, as the WPLC Board Chair and **Anne Hamland** as the WPLC Board Vice-Chair for 2020.

Sherry Machones, Director of the Northern Waters Library Service and President of the American Library Association's Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies, shared her concerns about the design of the newly built Hunts Point Community Library, a branch of the Queens Public Library in a November 2019 *Library Journal* article [Hunters Point Library Confronts Accessibility Issues](#). While the \$41 million new library opened to widespread acclaim on September 24, visitors soon discovered significant accessibility challenges to people with mobility issues.

Rhineland District Library Director **Virginia Roberts** stressed the importance of people participating in the 2020 census in the December 18, 2019 *Hodag Star Journal E-Edition* article "[Because everyone counts: Area libraries stress importance of 2020 census](#)". Roberts stated that "...the census is used to determine congressional representation as well as to properly allocate federal funding to Wisconsin and the Northwoods. Federal money is used to fund social service programs as well as for state-supported programs like the county fair and University of Wisconsin-Extension services." NOTE: More information about the Census is shared under "Additional Information" toward the end of this report and on the WVLS website at <https://wvls.org/2020-census/>.

Virginia "Ginny" Javenkoski, former Children's Librarian and Director of the Demmer Memorial Library (Three Lakes) passed away on December 1, 2019. She received a Friend of Education award from the Three Lakes School District and worked for the library for 34 years. <https://www.gaffney-busha.com/obituaries/Virginia-Ginny-Javenkoski?obId=9341238#/obituaryInfo>.

Diane Johnson, former director of the Wabeno Public Library passed away on January 14, 2020.

Former WVLS volunteer, **Marion (Burns) Fehlhaber** passed away on January 9, 2020. She was 95 years old. <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/wausaudailyherald/obituary.aspx?n=marion-fehlhaber-burns&pid=195004208>.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

DPI Activities for PLSR Implementation Webinar Recording Available

At the end of November, DPI presented two webinars that described planned activities related to the Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) recommendations delivered by the PLSR Steering Committee in April 2019. Recordings of both webinars are now available on the [COLAND PLSR website](#). While the webinars consist of the same initial content, the question and answer periods differ based on questions asked by attendees. For your convenience, direct links to the questions are also included on the site.

DPI welcomes additional feedback and questions related to the implementation of PLSR recommendations. Feel free to send an email to DPI-PLSR@dpi.wi.gov.

DLT Library Team Project Coordinator Position Posted

A new Library Team Project Coordinator position was recently posted by DPI's Division for Libraries and Technology (DLT). This role will serve as the project management resource and will be solely responsible for managing the coordination of complex projects and activities among staff working with public library systems, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs), public and school libraries, school districts, vendors, and organizations representing stakeholders. Projects include, but are not limited to, the implementation of

recommendations from the Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) project and coordination of interrelated activities needed to implement other short and long term projects. The position works under the general supervision of the Director of the Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning team in collaboration with members of DLT Library Teams. The application deadline is **January 26, 2020**. More information is available at http://wisc.jobs/public/job_view.asp?annoid=100961&jobid=100475&org=255&class=09472&index=true.

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) News

Macmillan, one of the “Big 5” publishers in the United States and publisher to many best-selling authors, has decided to severely limit the number of e-book and digital audiobook copies that libraries are able to purchase in the first eight weeks after a title’s publication. This “embargo” will significantly limit access to Macmillan titles, and allow the WPLC Consortium to only purchase 16 copies of any title for the entire state. It is anticipated that hold times for these titles will increase dramatically. As a result, in December, the WPLC Board, Digital Library Steering Committee and Collection Development Committee voted to partially boycott Macmillan. Consortium and Advantage selectors were advised that the WPLC and Advantage accounts would not purchase any new Macmillan ebook titles at this time; WPLC would continue to purchase only audiobooks and copies of currently owned Macmillan ebook titles needed to fill holds; and, WPLC would work with OverDrive to remove Macmillan titles from curated lists and browsing collections in the Wisconsin Digital library.

A new “Hold Redelivery” feature will debut in early 2020 allowing Wisconsin Digital Library users to “suspend a hold even after it’s made available to them, while maintaining their place on the wait list.” This a useful feature for those who have experienced receiving too many items to read at once.

The WPLC Steering Committee continues to work closely with OverDrive as Libby is currently incompatible with screen readers used by those with vision disabilities.

Anne Hamland is creating sample marketing images to assist libraries in promoting the digital library on social media. These images aim to encourage public knowledge of the resource as a “fine free” service available to all, even those with current library fines.

Mitchell Street Branch Receives New Landmark Library 2019 Award!

Congratulations to the Mitchell Street Branch of the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) for being named by *Library Journal* as a New Landmark Library 2019! The award honors paradigm-shifting public libraries designed around their communities’ changing needs.

On the opening day of the Mitchell Street Branch, one teen shouted into his phone: “You have to come down here! They have everything!” Without doubt, as the largest of MPL’s branch locations, this new location in a renovated historic department store built in 1919 is quite the showstopper. Key features now include the Northwestern Mutual Foundation Studio M Makerspace and the Cargill Community kitchen, where teens learn to make themselves healthy snacks and families learn to cook together. Technology lockers, opened via a crank system, feature a recording sound booth, and video production and graphic design equipment. Teens have been hired to assist with training in the makerspace, and repeat users have visited the makerspace 50-80 times over a 7-month period. The new design opens sightlines throughout the main floor and up to the mezzanine and connects users to reference perches – small mobile technology hubs where patrons and library staff can collaborate on finding information. Community rooms and teen spaces are visible through glass hangar doors. For more information and to see photos the Mitchell Street Branch and other 2019 Landmark libraries visit: <https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=Mitchell-Street-Branch-Milwaukee-Public-Library-WI-New-Landmark-Libraries-2019> and https://www.libraryjournal.com/?page=landmark-libraries-2019&utm_source=Marketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=december17LJXpress

(edited from *Library Journal* 12/16/19)

Other Wisconsin Libraries in the News

Located between La Crosse and Eau Claire, one small city, **Arcadia**, just opened a major community center. According to Arcadia District Administrator, Lance Bagstad, the \$20 million **Wanek Center** is breathtaking. “When you walk in the front door, you’re in awe, walk into the public library, you’re in awe,” he said. “Walk into the fitness centers, same thing. ... It’s like none other, especially in a community the size of 3,000 people in Arcadia.” Read more at [Local City Opens State-Of-The-Art Community Center](#).

Tucked away in one of the **Burlington Public Library’s** meeting rooms, a dedicated group of area residents has been attending a weekly Wednesday afternoon class. They come from all walks of life but share one important common denominator – they have been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. With help from the Wisconsin Parkinson Association, the Burlington Public Library offers a 10-week class for a dozen community members on movement and gentle exercises. Visit [Locals Diagnosed with Parkinson Disease Enjoy Movement, Music and a Sense of Community](#) for details.

The **L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library** (Eau Claire) is participating in the Eau Claire County Reads program from January-May 2020. Eau Claire County Reads is a county-wide reading program encouraging literacy and community engagement. The selected title is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, a comical and heart-warming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. As a participating library in the program, the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library will host one or more programs related to the issues presented in the

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Library Legislative Day Update

The Wisconsin Library Association’s Library Legislative Day will be held on **February 11, 2020**. The registration deadline 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. Program details are being finalized. Invited guests participating in the morning briefing include **Governor Tony Evers, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Stanford Taylor** and a bipartisan panel of legislators. See <http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/legislative/legislative-day> for more information. This year, WLA is inviting attendees to consider making a short video to share with legislators. An easy way to share the library story is to share a short video during meetings with legislators using a phone, tablet, or laptop. The video doesn’t have to be complicated. Examples are found at <https://wla.memberclicks.net/preparing-for-library-legislative-day>. **Kris Adams Wendt** is coordinating the WVLS delegation to Legislative Day. WVLS will make every effort to coordinate transportation from Wausau depending upon response and logistics.

Library Legislative Day is just one of 365 days during which there are opportunities to build legislative relationships. If your library offers public meeting space, remind your legislators that it can host town hall style listening sessions. Invite legislators to special events at the library and send library newsletters to his/her office. Look for opportunities to introduce yourself at other public local events attended by legislators and thank them for their support of state library aids and programs.

WVLS PROJECTS

WAPL Conference Program Proposal

Jamie Matczak’s 60-minute presentation “Library Marketing (with a Focus on Photography),” provided during a day-long workshop by the South Central Library System last November, was well received. As a result, Jamie

submitted this presentation as a program proposal for the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference to be held April 29-May 1 in Oshkosh.

Managed Application Issues Across Public Libraries

In December of 2019, we received notice from LogMeIn that our current service plan type was no longer supported, and the new service plan would be approximately three times the cost of the deprecated plan. Efforts with LogMeIn sales to maintain service levels and costs proved fruitless but an accelerated review and pilot of an alternative product led to the joint decision to abandon LogMeIn outright.

The new product, **Splashtop**, was able to be pushed automatically to most staff computers in the IFLS and WVLS networks utilizing the LSTA funded System Center Configuration Manager client licensing, and each system has been coordinating with members to update all public stations. NWLS was, fortunately, not yet using the LogMeIn tool so not directly affected. Splashtop installations will be included in the process of including NWLS sites in Active Directory.

There was an issue with version 4.20 of Faronics Antivirus which led to clients still on that version after December 31, 2019 presenting a somewhat obscuring error message. Most clients had already updated to 4.21 before January 1, 2020 through scheduled/automated maintenance periods, but a small number of clients across the memberships of IFLS, NWLS, and WVLS had not yet updated for various reasons. Most of these cases were resolvable by manually pushing updates to the affected computers, and some needed additional direct support.

Configuration Manager Deployments

Deployments for IFLS staff and member library computers are either completed or nearly completed to the extent possible with automation. Deployments for WVLS staff and member libraries are in progress with nearly all library staff computers connected, and follow-up with patron computers in process. Deployments for NWLS offices and staff computers at NWLS member libraries will be included during the Active Directory join efforts being planned.

Resource Sharing Project with WiLS

WiLS approached LEAN WI in November to begin discussing a potential collaboration on platform services for a digitized newspaper archive project. We met via conference call in December to discuss the project and better understand the basics of its platform service needs. A Project Consideration document has been drafted with a breakout of infrastructure capacity cost sharing estimates for the project's initial requirements. This draft is under review internally by LEAN WI and will be shared with WiLS once estimations and feasibility of servicing is affirmed. Then, if WiLS determines that it would be cost effective or otherwise meaningful to continue the pursuit of collaboration on this project, additional meetings will occur to make service facet refinements and begin planning out the project's timeline.

V-Cat Project Update

It has also been all hands on deck to gather Sierra, technology and financial data for public library annual reports as well as the system annual report. On Friday, January 17, V-Cat related statistics will be shared with DPI to download into the online reports, and a 3-page annual report data sheet will be emailed to each public library next week. Much thanks to **Katie Zimmerman, Rachel Metzler, Jamie Matczak, Anne Hamland, Joshua Klingbeil** and **Sue Hafemeister** for their hard work to get data to DPI and member libraries in a timely manner.

In late 2019, V-Cat Council Chairperson **Tammie Blomberg** called for volunteers to participate on a **Voting Models Exploratory Committee**. People who expressed interest include: **Dominic Frandrup** (Antigo Public Library), **Kay Heiting** (Granton Community Library), **Matt Derpinghaus** (MCPL), **Erica Clarkson** (Frances L. Simek

Memorial Library, Medford), **Debbie Kiefer** (T.B. Scott Library, Merrill), **Tammie Blomberg** (Rib Lake Public Library), and **Heidi O'Hare** (Tomahawk Public Library).

Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) Project Moves Forward

Anne Hamland and the LAWDS team of **Leah Langby** (IFLS), **Sherry Machones** (NWLS), **Jon Menz**, Chief Executive Officer of the Workforce Development Board of West Central Wisconsin, and **Mari Kay-Nabozny**, Chief Executive Officer of the Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, have set dates for four meetings in spring 2020 to introduce public library staff to local job center staff. Prior to the meeting and in preparation for the meeting discussions, public library staff will receive Module 1: "Workforce Development Board Roles and Responsibilities" and resources from job centers in their proximity. The first meeting is slated for March 18 at the Altoona Public Library. An agenda for the gatherings hasn't been formalized but is expected to include guided discussion on how public libraries and job centers provide workforce development assistance, skits developed from service scenarios, and relationship building.

Hamland, **Mark Jochem** (SCLS), Machones and **Nicole Rice**, Workforce Services Director for the North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, are working to set dates for similar opportunities in the Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Vilas, Adams, Portage, and Wood county region.

Collaborative Backup Project

Capital is still awaiting scheduling from Dell to install in LEAN WI rack 2 at the LEAN WI datacenter in Eau Claire.

BadgerNet circuit upgrade requests by SCLS and by LEAN WI were adjusted to 5Gbps servicing for initial implementation for sake of fiduciary responsibility. We will assess performance and usage needs after initial implementation and increase the request if/as appropriate. 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 to supplement LEAN WI operations at a lower cost burden to the TEACH program.

Planning with WiscNet, and implementation to upgrade one or both exiting 1Gbps internet transit interconnects to 10Gbps will resume once annual reports efforts are largely completed and we are able to again be primarily dedicated to technology project efforts.

Northern Waters Library Service Onboarding

Progress continues. The technology managers from IFLS, NWLS, and WVLS have a meeting scheduled for January 17, 2020 specifically to plan out processes for Active Directory Joins and Unifi networking equipment deployments. Staff from all partner systems will be involved in field visits or remote support roles.

Virtualization Infrastructure Upgrades

New core switches have been received and need to be moved to the Datacenter for deployment. These new switches are replacing 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 to Present Its Draft Marketing Plan Template to Libraries

Jamie Matczak and members of the statewide Public Library System Marketing Cohort met in Wausau on November 22 to review and refine the draft Public Library Marketing Plan Template. To continue this effort, Matczak, **Mark Ibach** (SCLS) and **Kathy Dempsey**, whose work the draft plan models, will host a webinar on February 12 at 1 pm to introduce the draft plan to public libraries and solicit their feedback. 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.

Inclusive Services Update

The NWLS/WVLS IDEA (Inclusive, Diversity, Equity and Access) Team is looking for a few new members to work on inclusive projects. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 18 at a location to be determined. The Team would like to see more resources shared via the Inclusive Services webpage in 2020 and do more to plan continuing education opportunities that have been suggested. The Team still plans on offering assistance to libraries with [The Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide for Wisconsin Public Libraries](#).

The Public Library Association’s Inclusive Internship Initiative (III) offers paid, summer-long internships to high school students at their local public library. Over the course of the summer, each intern works with his or her mentor on a community-based learning project. Through III, students from diverse backgrounds are introduced to careers in librarianship, library mentors practice leadership skills, and host libraries grow new audiences through outreach and programming. The application to host an intern over Summer 2020 is now open and will close on **February 3, 2020**. For more information about this program and to preview the application, visit <http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/plinterns>.

Sherry Machones, NWLS/WVLS Inclusive Services Consultant, plans to attend the **Toward One Wisconsin 2020 Conference** on April 28-29 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay. This Toward One Wisconsin Conference focuses on building communities of equity and opportunity. More information about the conference may be found at <https://inclusivity-wi.org/>.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The NWLS Winter Retreat

was held on Friday, Dec. 13 in Seeley, WI. There were 18 attendees, mostly member librarians from NWLS.

Angela Meyers, Coordinator of Youth and Inclusive Services at the Bridges Library System, spoke about library accessibility in the morning and Jamie spoke on customer service in the afternoon. The day was well received by everyone who attended. One evaluation said: “Both Angela and Jamie were fun and interesting! Thank you for a great workshop!”

WVLS Youth Services Workshop

Forty-three public and school librarians from eight library systems attended a day-long workshop **Super Storytimes!** for libraries serving youth, held on December 4 in the Marathon County Public Library’s Wausau Community Room. The morning speakers, **Julia Carlis** and **Mollie Stanford**, were participants in the national 2018 Supercharged Storytimes for All Train-the-Trainer Program and were selected instructors for Minnesota’s [Supercharged Storytimes For All](#) statewide online program. Participants received introductory homework to prepare for the “Supercharged Storytimes for All” session and follow-up resources to use after the workshop.

The afternoon session, “Storytime Expert Series,” featured rapid-fire presentations from expert area colleagues on four aspects of storytime: Music and Movement (**Jerissa Koenig**, Eau Claire); Sensory Friendly (**Katie Kubisiak**, Rhinelander and **Laura Lawler**, MCPL); Science/STEAM (**Krista Blomberg**, Rib Lake); and, Nature (**Annette Miller**, Tomahawk). A big thanks to them for sharing their expertise with the group!

Website Service and Training for Members

In November **Anne Hamland** finished updating links to BadgerLink resources on WVLS and IFLS member library WordPress websites in preparation for the new BadgerLink authentication process. She continues to create new website images to promote BadgerLink resources, most recently images for Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers, Auto Repair Source, and Learning Express Library were created.

As of December 31, 2019, the Lean WI website service:

- designed, built and maintained websites for 35 IFLS libraries and 16 WVLS libraries since inception of the service.
- designed and drafted ten websites for IFLS libraries and one WVLS library set to go live in 2020.
- completed the transition of the Northern Waters Library System and IFLS Library System websites to the Lean WI WordPress service platform.

IFLS Library System and WVLS member libraries continue to express their appreciation for Anne's assistance and support as they work to migrate their websites to the Lean WI WordPress service platform. Most recently, **Christy Rundquist**, Director of the Pepin Public Library stated, *"Anne is great! She was easy to work with and did a fantastic job on the webpage. I really appreciate her."* And Menomonie Public Library Director **Ted Stark** said, *"I really appreciate your help with the MPL web site. I like the changes you made."*

IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours are slated for January 14, February 11 and March 10.

Librarian's Guide to Homelessness Training **Now Available**

To help library professionals better help ALL patrons, DPI has purchased a subscription to Ryan Dowd's **Librarian's Guide to Homelessness** training. The training is three and a half hours long, is on-demand, and may be viewed whenever it works best for your schedule - either all at once or in smaller segments. The subscription to the training will be available until December 31, 2020. For more information and access to this training, contact Jamie Matczak at jmatczak@wvls.org or 920-455-0668. If you would like to ask questions and/or get ideas about how to conduct this training with staff, **Sue Heskin**, Director of the Superior Public Library and member of the NWLS/WVLS IDEA Team, has been using this training with staff over the past year (heskings@ci.superior.wi.us or 715.394.8860).

NEW! Digital Byte on Recording Program Stats in the WI Public Library Annual Report

In the latest WVLS Digital Byte, **Anne Hamland** and **Tessa Michaelson Schmidt**, Public Library Development Team Consultant, share how to track program statistics in the public library annual report. They also walk viewers through a new tool to use to track library program statistics. You can view the training on YouTube, <https://youtu.be/vOgKrgo11v4>, and view the transcript at <https://wvls.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Keeping-Track.pdf>.

Register for the 2020 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference

The list of 14 presentations for the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference (WWWWC) was shared with the state public library system Continuing Education Coordinators last fall, and like 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.

Tracks for the 2020 WWWWC will be in Adult Services (**NEW!**), Small Libraries, Library Management (**NEW!**) and Tech Trends and will include the following sessions:

Developing Motivated Cultures: Six Simple Factors That Shape Your Organization
 Adult Services 101
 Help Your Patrons Cut the Cable Cord
 Incorporating EDI Values into Readers' Advisory Service
 Introduction to Website Accessibility
 Planting Seeds and Anticipating Blossoms: A Community Engagement Model
 Level Up on Your Social: Social Media Trends 2020
 How to Put Emotional Intelligence into Practice: Best Practices for First-Time Managers
 Making the Most of the Space You Have
 Programming with Purpose
 Small Libraries and the LGBT+ Experience
 From "Participation Trophies" to "Retire Already!": Best Practices in Managing a Multigenerational Library Staff
 Displays on a Dime
 Take a Break from Your Smartphone

For more information about the 2020 WWWWC, and to register, visit <http://www.wildwiscwinterweb.com/>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **"Bag of snakes brings new library policy in Madison County"**
<https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/madison/2019/10/20/madison-county-library-policy-bans-bags-snakes/4002405002/> Interim Director Peggy Goforth knew the Madison County (NC) Public Library needed a new policy governing service animals when a man walked into the Marshall branch carrying a bag of snakes.
- **New Study Links More Than \$1 Billion in Library Funding to Census Results** The population count in the decennial census determines the level of funding allotted to each state through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). The legislation's Grants to States program provides federal funding to state library agencies to support libraries in their state. The program is one of more than 300 federal programs that allocates funding to local communities based on data derived from the Census.
- **FY 2020 Library Budget signed; Final bill includes increases for LSTA and other programs**
 Congress provided the largest increase for the Institute and Library Services (IMLS) and LSTA in 12 years!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 10 - COLAND (Council of Library and Network Development) meeting (Klingbeil)
- January 13 – Public Library System CE Facilitators Meet Up (Matczak)
- **January 14 - IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours** (Hamland)
- January 14 – ILS Circulation Training, Gilman (Metzler, Zimmermann)
- January 16 - Strategic Planning meeting; E.U. Demmer Library, Three Lakes (Sepnafski)
- January 17 – LEAN WI Technology Managers meeting (Klingbeil)

- **January 22-23 – “2020 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference”** (Matczak)
- January 24 – WLA’s Youth Services Section Regional Meetup, Manitowoc Public Library (Hamland)
- **January 25 – WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Hamland, Hafemeister, Klingbeil, Matczak, Metzler, Sepnafski, Wendt, Zimmermann)
- January 27 – MCPL Board Task Force meeting, MCPL
- January 27 – MCPL Board meeting, MCPL
- January 30 – WVLS V-Cat Council Cooperative Circulation Committee meeting (Metzler, Zimmerman)
- **February 5 – WVLS Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE); Athens** (Hamland)
- **February 6 – WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** (Klingbeil, Zimmermann, Metzler, Sepnafski)
- February 10 – System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) meeting, Madison (Sepnafski)
- February 11 – WLA’s Library Legislative Day, Madison (Wendt, Sepnafski, Klingbeil, Matczak)
- **February 11 - IFLS Library System/WVLS Webmaster Office Hours** (Hamland)
- **February 13 – “Introducing the Draft Public Library Marketing Plan Template”** webinar featuring Public Library System Marketing Cohort members and Kathy Dempsy (Matczak)
- February 13 - Strategic Planning meeting, E.U. Demmer Library, Three Lakes (Sepnafski)
- February 20 – Oneida County Library Board meeting, Rhinelander (Wendt)
- February 21 – Wisconsin Public Library Consortium Board meeting (Hamland)
- **February 24 – Deadline for public library annual reports to reach the WVLS office**
- February 25 – Deadline for WVLS to send public library annual reports and system annual report to DPI (Hafemeister, Sepnafski)
- **March 10-11 – “Children’s Book Fest” and WVLS Youth Services Grassroots Gathering**, Rhinelander (Hamland)
- March 18 – LAWDS (Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills) meeting with public library, system and workforce development representatives, Altoona (Hamland)
- **March 21 – WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Hamland, Hafemeister, Klingbeil, Matczak, Metzler, Sepnafski, Wendt, Zimmermann)
- **April 2 – WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** (Klingbeil, Zimmermann, Metzler, Sepnafski)
- **April 9 – WVLS Library Advisory Committee meeting** (Matczak, Sepnafski, Klingbeil, Hamland, Metzler, Zimmermann)
- April 10 – WVLS Office Closed
- April 15-18 – Innovative User Group Conference, Minneapolis (Zimmermann)
- April 28-29 – Toward One Wisconsin 2020 Conference, Green Bay (Machones)
- April 29 - Wisconsin Public Library Consortium Board meeting (Hamland)
- April 29-May 1 – Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries Conference, Oshkosh

Happy New Year!

Marla