



1) Library Closure Survey for Early 2023

WVLS created a survey to collect library closure dates on and around major holidays from January - July 2023. Survey responses will alert WVLS staff to adjust due dates in Sierra and inform Waltco of modification to a library's courier schedule.

[Please have a staff member complete this survey](#) on behalf of your library by Monday, January 23.

2) Next Ryan Dowd Training: Homeless De-Escalation 201 Workshop

Thursday, January 12; 1 p.m.

- Analyze scenes
- Role-play exercises with a focus on nonverbal tools
- Q&A

Contact Jamie at WVLS (jmatczak@wvls.org) for the registration link. The recording of the live training will be available via Zoom for four weeks.

3) Gearbox Labs Grant Opportunity

[Gearbox](#), a 501c3 organization based in Glendale, received a grant from the Vela Education Fund to bring coding education workshops to libraries with an interest in expanding makerspace activities. In 2020, they piloted a program with libraries in the Monarch Library System. From February - July 2023, their goal is to reach seven communities in the state to teach homeschool students, as well as train library staff and local teachers.

There is no cost for libraries to participate. The library needs to provide a room for two consecutive workshops that can host 20 participants. One day would be offered to homeschool students and library staff and the second day would be for local educators and library staff. Gearbox will provide five sets of engineering, electronics, and coding books and kits to the library for check out in its outreach efforts in the community.

Libraries that are interested should contact Peter Haydock at peter@gearboxlabs.org or at 414-446-4022.

4) Feedback Needed By Tuesday ILS Product Demonstrations

The V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee wants your input about Sierra and alternatives! Koha, Carl and Sierra product demonstration recordings are available on the [V-Cat ILS Demonstrations page](#). (Please reach out to ils.admin@wvls.org if you need the password.)

Recordings are split into separate modules so that staff can attend one or more sessions of interest. All library staff who use Sierra are encouraged to view records and complete post-demonstration surveys on sessions they viewed by Tuesday, January 10. Please encourage staff at your library to participate.

5) Delivery Tracking This Month

Public libraries in Wisconsin will track incoming and outgoing delivery materials for one week in January. This data will be used to study trends and delivery efficiencies among systems.

WVLS libraries/branches should track incoming and outgoing bins and bags for one week. For example, a library that receives delivery on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday is considered "one week." Libraries can choose which week in January they want to track.

[Please enter the data on this spreadsheet.](#) Note there are separate columns for "drop off" and "pick up." For counting bags: If you have 5-8 bags, that counts as 1 bin. If a library has 4 or less bags, they do not need to include it in the tally. If a library does not have anything incoming or outgoing on a certain day, write "0" in the column.

This data should be completed by Friday, January 27, 2023. Contact Jamie at jmatczak@wvls.org if you have any questions.

6) Upcoming Webinars

- [Book Talk: New Year, Balanced Life](#) - 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 10
- [7 Non-Obvious Traits of Top Teams](#) - 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11
- [Engaging the Volunteer of the Future](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11
- [UX Research Methods for Libraries](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11
- [Communicating with Elected Officials About Your Library](#) - 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12

7) Reminders

- [Registration is now open](#) for WLA Library Legislative Day in Madison on Tuesday, February 7, 2023! Because 2023 is a state budget-producing year, WVLS would like to have at least two representatives from each county participating. Newcomers are welcome. Here are more details:
 - WVLS is offering \$300 scholarships for library staff and trustees to attend. The scholarship will cover registration (\$28), one night of lodging, mileage to and from WVLS, a dinner stipend on February 6 and lunch stipend on February 7. [The deadline to apply for the scholarship](#) is Thursday, January 12. Recipients will be announced on Friday, January 13.
 - WLA has reserved a courtesy block of rooms at the Madison Concourse Hotel in downtown Madison. WVLS staff will be staying at Premier Park Best Western.
 - WVLS has secured a bus to take library supporters to the event. The bus will leave the Marathon County Public Library (Wausau) parking lot at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 6 and depart Madison the following day by 4 p.m.

- WVLS will arrange for its own briefing session via Zoom the week before Library Legislative Day. Information for the LLD brief will be shared at a later date.

If you have questions about the WVLS scholarship opportunity, upcoming LLD brief, or WLA's LLD event, contact Kris Adams Wendt at kawendt@wvls.org.