1) 'Gale Presents: Udemy' Now Available

WVLS staff are excited to announce that Gale Presents: Udemy is now available to all WVLS member library patrons. With Gale Presents: Udemy, patrons can connect to thousands of video-based courses in business, technology, leadership, and personal development. This top collection gives users access to relevant skills training, helping them achieve success at work and in life.

Links to access Udemy are on member library websites. Last week's session recording, as well as training materials, are also available. WVLS is also exploring ways to help its member libraries promote this valuable resource. Please take a moment to complete this short survey.

2) Delivery Reminders

- Every item in a bin should have a transit slip. There have been instances where one transit slip is placed in a packet of items that are rubber-banded together and WVLS has had to create transit slips for the other items in the packet.
- A "hold" slip should not be used as a transit slip. In instances when this occurs, WVLS has to create transit slips for those items.
- Placing rubber bands around items uniform in size is acceptable as this helps to prevent movement of items in a bin. However, if items in a packet are not uniform in size, and if a packet is more than 4 inches in height, WVLS has had to remove the rubber bands to efficiently repackage those items along with other items that are going to a library.
- To prevent damage, WVLS recommends that light weight and/or fragile items (like CDs and DVDs) be placed on top of heavier books rather than under them. Also, magazines or journals should be placed in interoffice mail envelopes or green bags.
- To prevent bins from becoming too heavy for library and system courier staff to manage, WVLS recommends that packaged bins not be more than 2/3 to 3/4 full.
- Questions about courier matters and requests for bins may be sent to the attention of WVLS courier staff at courier@wvls.org. There is also a Digital Byte that covers packing best practices.

3) LEAN WI Technology Budget Planning Guide

The LEAN WI – 2025 Technology Budget Planning Guide for WVLS Member Libraries document is now available on the Budget Resources page on the WVLS website. This document contains each member library's budget planning totals for library network and technology services for the 2025 budget year and information on what is included in LibrariesWin/LEANWI technology services.

Contact cio@wvls.org or ebrewster@wvls.org if you have technology budgeting questions.

4) New Digital Byte

In this Digital Byte, Kristie talks about why and how to schedule an email in a Gmail account. What are the advantages? Watch it here.

5) 'Trustee Training Week' Flyer Available

Registration is open for this year's Trustee Training Week webinars. All webinars will be recorded and archived if trustees can't attend. Please share these webinars with your board of trustees and friends. There is now a flyer available to print and give to library trustees.

6) WLA Now Accepting Award Nominations

The Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) is now accepting nominations for awards. WLA believes Wisconsin library colleagues deserve recognition for all of their amazing work. Nominations for all awards are due Friday, September 6. Awards are available in a variety of categories and are conferred by three separate committees.

- Awards conferred by the WLA Awards & Honors Committee: Library of the Year Award; Trustee of the Year Award; WLA/DEMCO Librarian of the Year Award; Citation of Merit; Programming Innovation Award; Special Service Award; Paralibrarian of the Year Award.
- Awards conferred by the Wisconsin Library Heritage Center Steering Committee: Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame.
- Awards conferred by the WLA and WEMTA Intellectual Freedom Committees: WLA/WEMTA Intellectual Freedom Award.

More information about these awards can be found here. Contact the WLA Office with questions at wla@wisconsinlibraries.org.

7)   Upcoming Webinars

- Trauma-Informed Storytelling in Action - 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 16
- Think Outside the Box: Creative Ways to Make Learning Fun with Breakout Boxes - 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 17
- Building a Needs Assessment Strategy - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17

8)   WiSciFest Bioblitz Webinar

The 14th annual Wisconsin Science Festival is approaching from October 14 to 20. Libraries are invited to participate as event hosts. The Wisconsin Water Library at UW-Madison supports libraries' involvement in the WiSciFest Bioblitz, a community science event focused on collecting data about Wisconsin's biodiversity. You can host a mini bioblitz for an hour, a day, or the whole week of the festival. The bioblitz resource guide provides essential information.

Register for a free one-hour information webinar on Thursday, September 19 at 11:30 a.m.