

**Director's Report**  
**WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**September 19, 2015**

**PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

**WITHEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD SELECTS NEW DIRECTOR**

**Justine Paulson**, a May 2015 graduate from the UW-Milwaukee School of Library and Information Science, has been hired as the new director of the Withee Public Library. She replaces **Loralee Peterson**, who resigned in July 2015 to become the Owen Public Library Director.

**STETSONVILLE DIRECTOR RECEIVES GRANT**

**Carla Huston**, Director of the Jean M. Thomson Memorial Library (Stetsonville), recently became the recipient of a \$450 scholarship to cover the entire cost of one certification course offered during the 2015 fall semester. Presented by the UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies – Continuing Education Services, the scholarship opportunity was open to a Wisconsin public library director who has a temporary public library director certificate and is working to complete the four core courses required for certification. Applicants had to submit an email to the UW that included a paragraph or two about how taking the certification courses helps him/her provide excellent service to their community.

**KLINGBEIL TO JOIN NEW WISNET WORK GROUP**

**Joshua Klingbeil** accepted the opportunity to participate in a new WiscNet work group on "Extending Internet Access in Communities." The work group will meet three times a year, and information/outcomes from each meeting will be shared with the WiscNet community at large. Feasible models for extending broadband access and accessibility into the rural regions surrounding the rural and lightly urban communities in our member counties could go a long way to helping them implement projects and achieve success in rural broadband development.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

On September 10 a pair of identical companion bill drafts began circulating among legislators in both the Senate and Assembly seeking co-sponsors for a change to [s. 43.19\(1\)\(b\)1](#). The legislation would replace 15 with 11 as the 'at least' (minimum) number of members on a public library system board. The number 11 was chosen because it is the smallest odd number that allows all Wisconsin library systems to offer fair county representation (IFLS is comprised of 10 counties). The change was initiated by Waukesha Co. Federated System, which is joining with Jefferson County in a new partnership to be called Bridges Library System, because the current 15 member requirement would entail additional expense. Allowing the choice of 11 member boards will hopefully encourage one and two county systems where trustees are considering future options and efficiencies.

This public library system board bills temporarily numbered as **LRB-3006/1** and **LRB-3181/1** are being introduced by lead authors [Senator Stephen Nass](#) (R-Whitewater) and [Rep. Cody Horlacher](#) (R-Mukwonago). Library supporters were asked to contact their legislators and urge them to sign onto the bill by September 17. Permanent bill numbers have yet to be assigned.

The change will have no effect on the WVLS Board. It has been endorsed by LD&L Committee and the WLA Board. It has the blessing of the DPI Division for Libraries and Technology. Wisconsin Public Library System Directors have voiced no opposition.

An excellent show of bi-partisan support for the companion bill will further statewide legislative relationships, as well as establishing WLA as a reliable non-partisan partner for similar legislative work. Parallel progress is being made

regarding finalizing draft language for the Return of Library Materials (s. 43.30) issue to enable the limited release of patron data to collection agencies and law enforcement to assist in retrieval of library materials.

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM REVISION STEERING COMMITTEE**

**State Superintendent Tony Evers** recently announced the appointment of a Steering Group to oversee a multi-year project to re-envision how Wisconsin Public Library Systems serve Wisconsin's 384 public libraries. Wisconsin's library systems have provided services to public libraries in Wisconsin for over 40 years. With the support of the Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND), the Steering Committee in conjunction with the Division for Libraries and Technology and various work groups, will seek to update and refine the roles and services of public library systems to maximize the public investment in library systems and public libraries.

The Steering Committee will provide strategic vision, oversight and general leadership for the process; work with the DPI to select a project manager to lead the service model development and implementation process; establish process to select work group members; provide feedback and guidance to the project manager in the development of the work groups and timelines; provide oversight to ensure transparency and appropriate communication to the library community, decision makers and stakeholders; and work with DPI to assess, based on information gathered and progress of service work groups, budget and legislative requests for the 2017-2019 biennial budget.

Steering Committee members were selected based on library and system size, and geographic distribution. Members are:

- John DeBacher**; Director, Public Library Development; DPI liaison
- John Thompson**; Director, Indianhead Federated Library System; large system, LEAN team
- Stephen Ohs**; Director, Lakeshores Library System; small system
- Paula Kiely**; Milwaukee; Director, Milwaukee Public Library/Milwaukee County Federated Library System; large public library and system resource library
- Bridget Christenson**; Director, Hatch Public Library, Mauston/Winding Rivers Library System; small public library
- Beth Carpenter**; Director, Kimberly-Little Chute Public Library/Outagamie-Waupaca Library System; small- to mid-size public library (and joint library)
- Kristie Hauer**; Director, Shawano City-County Library/Nicolet Federated Library System; joint city/county public library (and rural library)
- Kent Barnard**; Director, Patterson Memorial Library, Wild Rose/Winnefox Library System; very small public library
- Jessamyn Lee-Jones**; Director, Platteville Public Library/Southwest Library System; small- to mid-size public library; small resource library)
- Bryan McCormick**; Director, Hedberg Pubic Library, Janesville/Arrowhead Library System public library (and resource library; COLAND member)
- Jon Bolthouse**; Director, Fond du Lac Public Library/Winnefox Library System; large public library, non-resource library

The Steering Committee held its first meeting on September 3, 2015 during which officers were selected: John Thompson - Chair; Paula Kiely - Vice-Chair; and Steve Ohs - Secretary. Additional information about the project and process leading up to it may be found at [http://pld.dpi.wi.gov/pld\\_system-redesign](http://pld.dpi.wi.gov/pld_system-redesign)

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO CHANGE ITS NAME**

With the addition of Jefferson County in 2016, the **Waukesha County Federated Library System** underwent a name change in August. The WCFLS Board, with input from library directors, and colleagues from Jefferson County and throughout the state, decided on the name "**Bridges Library System.**" According to WCFLS Director Connie Meyer in a WISPIBLIB post, "We will be rolling out the new name in a coordinated fashion sometime this fall, after we secure the URL, create a logo, and take care of the appropriate notifications. ... We hope the word conveys connections and support, which describes what we do for our libraries...and also describes what our libraries do within their own communities, connecting people to resources and providing support for lifelong learning."

## WVLS PROJECTS

### ILEAD USA-WISCONSIN PROJECT

The ILead USA-Wisconsin Team “Enrich the Future, Tap Into the Past” is currently putting final touches on their ILEAD USA-Wisconsin project and preparing for their presentation at the third (and final) in-person session at the Heidel House (Green Lake, WI) in October. As a result of a successful grant application, the team secured \$2,000 to purchase a scanner for a digitization toolkit that is being developed by the team, and to secure a day-long ResCarta trainer for the team.

ILEAD USA is a nationwide leadership immersion program utilizing web technologies. Six teams were selected to participate in the Wisconsin program. Members of Team “Enrich the Future, Tap Into the Past” are: Todd Mountjoy, Richard J. Brown Library, Nicolet Area Technical College (Rhinelander); Don Litzer, T.B. Scott Library (Merrill); Inese Christman, Wisconsin Valley Library Service (Wausau); Emily Pfothenauer, WiLS (Madison); Sue Engel, Horace Mann Middle School IMC (Wausau); and Jean Anderson, South Central Library System (Madison), Team Mentor. More information about the 2015 ILEAD USA-Wisconsin program may be found at <http://pld.dpi.wi.gov/pld-ileadusawi>

### V-CAT UPDATE

The Ecommerce implementation is proceeding on schedule with the goal to go live in October. Innovative Interfaces, Inc. is finalizing the set-up in Sierra and product testing will follow.

In August 2015, the V-Cat database was re-indexed and a new load table was created. On September 4, 2015 Backstage Authority Control did its authority work on the entire database. At the end of September, ongoing monthly updates will begin.

The V-Cat Bib Committee finalized plans for the V-Cat Discovery product demonstrations on September 23, 2015. Comprehensive Discovery product evaluation forms were developed (exhibit 10-a) and shared with member libraries and trustees in early September.

### WVLS SUBMITS 2016 LSTA TECHNOLOGY BLOCK GRANT PROPOSAL

In April, the WVLS Library Advisory Committee expressed significant interest in STEAM programming and technologies as well as additional makerspace and digital content creation resources. In 2016, WVLS proposes to use LSTA technology block grant funds, in conjunction with leveraging its Network and Enterprise Services architecture to significantly enhance the Libraries WIN MinecraftEdu platform. This includes acquiring appropriate licensing to empower each public library and most K12s (public and private) within the WVLS region to utilize MinecraftEdu resources for educational and entertainment programming.

As part of this proposal, WVLS will focus on providing educational opportunities to libraries, to learn more about the Minecraft experience, the specifics of MinecraftEdu, and the myriad STEAM programming potentials those platforms offer in conjunction with ComputerCraft and ComputerCraftEdu. In this, we will plan three in-person workshops (in conjunction with interested partner systems) which will also be live-broadcast via interactive webinar.

Recognizing the expressed desire to enable libraries to access a variety of Makerspace and Creative Technologies, WVLS proposes to expand the breadth and depth of related capital. Additional 3D printers and other STEAM-related equipment will be purchased and shared with the regional population through the public libraries. Resources on makerspace management, creative technologies programming, and community engagement will continue to be aggregated and made available to the WVLS membership.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING

### YSS POWERHOUSE PRESENTS “COLLECTION CONNECTIONS” WEBINAR

Library collection development is the ubiquitous foundation of all library services, yet librarians may be so busy *doing* it that they seldom take the time to stop to consider *what* they’re doing and *why*. WVLS is hosting a webinar called

“Collection Connection” for youth librarians from 1:00 to 2:00 PM on Tuesday, September 22, one of a series being produced by different library systems in collaboration with the Wisconsin Library Association’s Youth Services Section. Panelists Shelly Collins Fuerbringer (L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Eau Claire), Sharon Grover (Hedberg Public Library, Janesville), and Emily Passey (Shorewood Public Library) will discuss the nuts and bolts of selection, dealing with salespeople and weeding, the importance of diversity in a collection, and ideas for improving access to the youth collection (displays, lists, and more).

### WVLS POVERTY AWARENESS THROUGH LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP IS OCTOBER 14

WVLS and NFLS collaborated on a DLT/LSTA grant for the **Youth and Special Services System Continuing Education Project Proposal**. Titled “Poverty Awareness through Library Engagement” it will facilitate in-person workshop sessions in Shawano on October 13 and Wausau on October 14. WVLS and NFLS will pick up training costs for two UW-Extension agents to provide Poverty Awareness for Community Engagement (PACE) training. The UW-Ex agents will be assisted by E.U. Demmer Memorial Library (Three Lakes) Director **Erica Brewster** (a former UW-Extension Agent familiar with PACE) and Nicolet College Library Director **Todd Mountjoy** (familiar with Bridges out of Poverty training) who will provide the bridge between PACE concepts and library operations and programs at both locations. The DLT/LSTA grant is covering \$1,600 for member library mini-grants following the trainings.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 17 – **WVLS Retreat for Public Library Directors** – Tribute Golf Course and Bunkers Bar and Grill 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- September 19 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** – WVLS office – 9:30 a.m.
- September 22 – **WVLS-hosted “YSS Powerhouse Presents”** webinar & NFLS-hosted **“Senior Moments: Event Planning for the Mature Audience”** webinar – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- September 23 – V-Cat Discovery Demo Day – MCPL – 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- September 24 – WPLC Steering Committee online meeting – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- September 25 – SOMBAW meeting – South Central Library System – 10:00 a.m.
- September 29 - V-Cat Council Bib Committee meeting – WVLS office 9:30 a.m.
- September 29 – **Minecraft Introductory Course II** – WVLS office – time not set
- October 1 – WVLS V-Cat Council meeting – MCPL – 9:30 a.m.
- October 2 – WLA’s Library Development and Legislation Committee meeting – Madison, WI
- October 7 – NFLS-hosted **“Digital Habits of Public Library Members”** webinar – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- October 8 – DLT-sponsored Youth Services Consultants meeting – DeForest, WI
- October 9 – DLT-sponsored CE/Certification Consultants meeting – DeForest, WI
- October 14 – **WVLS “Rural Poverty” workshop** – MCPL – 9:30 a.m.
- October 14 – V-Cat Council Bib Committee meeting – WVLS office – 9:30 a.m.
- October 15 – Oneida County Library Board meeting – Rhinelander – 1:30 p.m.
- October 20 – WVLS Listening Session – Frances L. Simek Memorial Library, Medford – 10:00 a.m.
- October 22 – NFLS-hosted **“Creating a Marketing Plan for Your Library”** webinar – Part 1 – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- October 26-29 – I-LEAD USA – Wisconsin Session – Green Lake, WI
- October 29 - NFLS-hosted **“Creating a Marketing Plan for Your Library”** webinar – Part 2 – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- November 3-6 – WLA Conference – Madison, WI
- November 10 – NFLS-hosted **“Putting UX into Customer Service”** webinar – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- November 11 – DLT-hosted LSTA Advisory Committee meeting – DeForest, WI
- November 12 – NFLS-hosted **“Using the Five Practices in Afterschool Programming”** webinar – 1:00-1:30 p.m.
- November 14 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** – WVLS office – 9:30 a.m.

Have a great September weekend!

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