We have discovered that we have so much information to share that it just won’t all fit in a newsletter, and would quickly fill up your inboxes. We’d like to encourage everyone that has a Facebook account to visit our page for all that extra information. To that end, we’re doing a raffle!

We would like all 42 of our member libraries to follow us on Facebook. Just send us a message letting us know that you follow us using Facebook Messenger or emailing Kelly at kelly@llcoop.org. The deadline will be June 16th. We will randomly select a winner to receive a $42 eCard from Amazon.

We would also love to hear from you about suggestions for other pages for us to follow and any other resource suggestions you may have. We’re looking to support your Facebook pages and are already following all of you—like, follow and share! 😊

“One’s friends are that part of the human race with which one can be human.” - George Santayana
IT CORNER: MANAGING INBOXES
BY THOM RILEY

As we have recently migrated the email service, I’d like to touch on one area regarding email that is often difficult to manage: our inboxes. We decided not to migrate over all the email stored on the old server. This was done in response to the sheer volume of saved messages, some going back over 15 years. Much of this stored email was outdated or spam. Email constantly comes to our inboxes, sometimes at an alarming rate, and keeping up with reviewing and maintaining all of this is daunting. Some people can sort, save and delete email in just minutes, while others may need significantly more time to keep on top of it. There is a real business need to manage email, both to not become bogged down with it, but also as it relates to official document retention.

Quick rule of thumb: save what needs saving and remove the rest. Here are 4 tips to help manage email:
1. **Take time each day** to read and respond to email. Actually schedule time, it’s important.
2. **Take action immediately.** Look for email that can be deleted, like spam or promotional advertisements. Evaluate the rest for what needs to be addressed and if it needs to be retained.
3. **Group and organize** email that needs to be retained using labels or folders. Folders for specific categories or projects make it easier to locate email when you need to reference back to them.
4. **Unsubscribe** from unneeded lists or promotional emails. We all have signed up for information from websites or mailing lists over time. Some of this email we continue to have a business use for but, much of the time, signing up was for a specific project or interest in a topic that is no longer relevant. Legitimate sites will offer a way to remove yourself from receiving future email from them. You’d be surprised on how much of the unwanted email we get was requested sometime in the past.

Managing email can be overwhelming sometimes, but starting with the above tips can help tame the chaos we often feel. Good luck and see you in the next newsletter!

ILS NOTES: AUTOMATIC RENEWALS
BY SHERYL VANDERWAGEN

Automatic renewal started for items due on April 1, 2019. Since then I have seen a few Facebook page postings that provide incorrect information about automatic renewals, so I will try to clarify here.

If items are eligible to be renewed, the automatic renewal takes place 3 days before the due date when the system courtesy notices are compiled for that day. Courtesy notices include both due dates for renewed items and for items that were not renewed. Items may not be renewed if there are holds, if the items are assigned to an i-type that doesn’t allow renewals, if the maximum number of renewals for those items has been reached, or if there is a manual block (MBLOCK) on the patron record. Most items in the system allow two renewals, since last year’s ILS Council vote to increase the number of renewals.

There may be up to two automatic renewals if the items allow 2 renewals. For items that allow only 1 renewal, that 1 renewal could be the automatic renewal. Manual renewal is still possible and counts against the 1 or 2 renewal maximums. Patrons may continue to renew manually through the My Account feature in the online catalog, itiva, Shoutbomb or via library staff.

LIBRARY DIRECTORS
ARRIVALS AND FAREWELLS

**Patmos Library** – Amber McLain
We have a new Director! Amber recently graduated with her MLIS and holds a BA in English Language and Literature from Grand Valley State University. Prior to becoming Director, she held the role of Youth Services Librarian at Patmos Library for 2 years.

**Fremont Area District Library** – Jan Figa
The Fremont Area District Library held a public reception to celebrate Jan’s time serving their community. The library board and staff wishes Jan well in his new endeavor as Library Director of Barry University in Florida.
MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS
WHAT’S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY?

Alvah N. Belding Memorial Library: When foreign-exchange student Polly Chesnokova came to us [from the Ukraine] as a volunteer last fall, I had no idea what an amazing person was walking in between our bookshelves. As she learned the work of prepping materials for children’s programs, shelving books, and helping with other miscellaneous tasks, I learned a little bit about Polly. It wasn’t long before I knew what jazzed our newest library volunteer: film.

Polly has won a scholarship and awards for her films, both foreign and domestic, and she plans to study film production in college here. A short time after I started following her YouTube channel, I asked her if she would be willing to help out with our library’s YouTube channel. She told me that she’d been thinking about filming at the library as well - with the hope of offering a workshop for our tween group.

We were delighted, and the program was a hit. She introduced the kids to soft box lighting, screenplay writing, producing, editing, and more. Having a completely student-led team (Polly asked high school students Joe Hall and Luke Marvin to help) created a unique dynamic to the event. When the event ran long the first night, Polly scheduled a “Part 2” program for the following week, so they could complete the entire creative work as a team.

In a world where we face so much division, I was inspired by Polly’s enthusiasm to bring young people together, share her talents, teach, and encourage our youth to create. I hope and believe this event can encourage other young leaders in our area, as well to use the library as a welcoming place to build a better community and world for everyone.

Fremont Area District Library: We’ve added fax service to meet a big need in our community, we’re getting a much needed overhaul of our IT network, and a countertop workspace area in the teen department for students. In addition, we’d like to highlight our in-house artistic talents. There was a Sleeping Beauty Princess Party at our library [see pics on Facebook] and our Circulation Supervisor, Lois Beekman, used her skills to make a fantastic dragon and spindle for the party. Roxanne Landin, Melanie Jackson, and Alison Center helped put everything together for the Princess Party.

(Continued on page 4)
MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS
(Continued from page 3)

Herrick District Library: We launched a BiblioCore discovery catalog on April 24th. We’ve worked with BiblioCommons for many months to integrate our holdings for a seamless transition. Some features we love:
- Librarian and patron lists and tags enhance discoverability
- New and On Order titles are easy to see
- Patrons can manage their reading, borrowing & wish lists
- Formats grouped on a single bib, so you can find the book, ebook, audiobook, large print, etc. on the same record
- OverDrive items can be checked out and managed directly in the catalog

We launched with live webinars and a 6 week pre-launch for staff to gain familiarity with the system. Staff giveaways, like bookstore gift cards, helped incentivize staff content creation. Patrons can follow other staff and patrons whose reading tastes are similar. It’s a much more interactive experience for our cardholders, focusing on the books, movies and music that brought them to the library in the first place: herrickdl.bibliocommons.com

Howard Miller Public Library: In April we kicked off an awesome new service called Fun on the Run Bags! We partnered with Zeeland Public Schools in helping families ensure students have every opportunity to become reading rock stars! Fun on the Run packs are filled with books and a family style game that focus on one or more literacy skills. These packs can be checked out for 3 weeks at a time and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. This collection is funded by the Ruisard Trust! So far it has been a big success and a lot of fun for families.

Ionia Community Library: IC won a grant from the Library of Michigan. Youth Services Librarian Mike Golczynski wrote the successful proposal and will use the $1,800 to buy a dozen STEM kits. The kits will circulate for 3 weeks to encourage families to explore STEM fundamentals at home and provide feedback to the library on what they liked about the kit.

Muskegon Area District Library: The plans are in and the project is slated for completion before the end of 2019. [MLive Mar. 22, 2018] “Three child-sized interactive learning spaces are planned at three [MADL] locations, each designed to enhance literacy and provide learning opportunities for parents and caregivers. The indoor playscapes are the culmination of the library’s Storyville project, which aims to combat illiteracy and enhance school readiness for children ages zero to five years old. Villages are planned at Montague, Muskegon Heights and Norton Shores branch libraries.”

Newaygo Area District Library: On June 21, NADL celebrates our community with a full day of fun! Enjoy food, prizes, crafts, and live music by the Silverado Band in Brooks Park. This opportunity is supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Minigrant Program, administered by LowellArts.

Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: Excitement is running high with the recent groundbreaking for our new 9,000 sq ft, single story building. Young and old gathered and shared shovels for the long-awaited day. The new library, just half a block away from our current location in downtown Douglas, will not only allow for growth of the collection, and much improved accessibility, it will also have more than one bathroom. Hurrah! And, we will finally have dedicated space for programs and quiet areas. This will be the first ever purpose-built library for our towns. With community input, it’s been designed to meet present and future needs. Our current space, a former church built in 1870, will revert back to the City of Douglas. Our staff is energized (understatement!) and ready to make the move next winter in 2020.
OTHER EVENTS

JUNE
ALA - GLBT BOOK MONTH

JUNE 11
ALCTS - LIBRARY PROJECT MANAGEMENT 101 PART 1
MERS: A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

JUNE 12
ALCTS - LIBRARY PROJECT MANAGEMENT 101 PART 2

JUNE 20
MERS: A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

JUNE 20-25
ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 23
CORETTA SCOTT KING BREAKFAST

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
JUNE 20-25, 2019

“What You Can Expect:

* 100s of top authors and unforgettable speakers
* 900+ expert exhibitors, new products, services, and titles
* Libraries Transform® and a focus on the future
* Learning that keeps on going
* Fun stuff that sparks innovation
* News You Can Use—updates, policy priorities, strategies for engaging decision-makers and influencers
* Quality and scope of programs, topics, and formats”

CORETTA SCOTT KING BOOK AWARDS & BREAKFAST
JUNE 23, 2019 AT THE ALA CONFERENCE

“The Coretta Scott King Book Awards are given annually to outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values. The award commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and honors his wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination to continue the work for peace and world brotherhood.”

“Using the hashtag, #CSK50 on social media, share with us your favorite moments from past Coretta Scott King Book Awards breakfasts, Coretta Scott King Book Award titles that you and your library cherish, or what this award means to you as a library worker, educator, reader, or writer.”

LAKELAND LIKES
BY LAKELAND STAFF

I’ve been listening to Bridges by Josh Groban as I gear up for his tour stop at Van Andel Arena in June. The song “99 Years” with Jennifer Nettles is one of my favorites. – Janet Cornell, Finance & HR Assistant
GOING FINES FREE
SOME LAKELAND LIBRARIES HAVE ALREADY MADE THE MOVE

GRPL: The Grand Rapids Public Library has eliminated all fines on youth materials. Overdue children and teen material will no longer accrue fines and accounts with old fines on this material have been forgiven. More...

KDL: Fines for overdue items will become a thing of the past for Kent District Library patrons beginning June 1. This change removes a barrier for people who cannot afford their fines and wish to use the library. More...

Lakeeland Libraries: Herrick District, Saugatuck-Douglas District, and Hesperia Community are moving to fines free for juvenile materials. Alvah N. Belding Memorial, Flat River Community (all fines), and Howard Miller Public will be added to the list soon. Please make arrangements with Sheryl if your library would also like to make this change.

FREE WEBINARS
EVERY MONTH

Check out these free webinars for library professionals. These change monthly, so be sure to bookmark the link!

"WebJunction hosts free live training events via the web that are open to all. Each session covers a high-interest library topic presented by real-world practitioners and experts. Register to attend upcoming webinars, or view the recorded sessions for those you may have missed."

WE NEED DIVERSE BOOKS
A RESOURCE

Are you looking for resources to expand the diversity of your collections? Here is one place that may help.

"We Need Diverse Books™ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and a grassroots organization of children's book lovers that advocates essential changes in the publishing industry. Our aim is to help produce and promote literature that reflects and honors the lives of all young people."

NEW MLA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DEBORAH E. MIKULA (DEBBIE)

Michigan Library Association's (MLA) Board of Directors has announced the appointment of Deborah E. Mikula (Debbie) as their new Executive Director. She will assume this new role June 24th. Mikula succeeds Gail Madziar who retired on May 3rd.

LIBRARIES AND SUMMER FOOD
CLICK THE IMAGE FOR MORE INFO

"The USDA's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) makes free healthy meals and snacks available to young people in communities with high rates of poverty. Many public libraries already participate as meal or snack sites, or provide programming to nearby feeding sites. Libraries can incorporate their summer library program and other fun, literacy-based activities to support child well-being and send children and teens back to school ready to learn."

STAR NET STEM ACTIVITY CLEARINGHOUSE
2019 SUMMER OF SPACE

"On STAR Net's STEM Activity Clearinghouse, librarians and library staff can find nearly 200 high quality, vetted STEM activities that are perfect for the library setting. So, be sure to check out the 'Universe of Stories' Collection which currently includes 81 (and growing) activities."