

## **THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY**

### **June 2020**

**Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian**  
**Greg McCormick, Director**

#### **Emergency Rule Temporarily Suspends Resource Sharing Requirements**

Even while most libraries in Illinois are experiencing facilities closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the library community have come together to design and expand services that do not require the public to enter the building. After the issuance of Executive Order 2020-32 on April 30, 2020 by Governor J.B. Pritzker, library boards and governing bodies have considered providing services that they consider essential, such as curbside delivery of library materials. Because of staffing, hours of service, and library collection limitations when implementing these temporary service models, a library may need to restrict access to their own patrons. Recognizing this need, the Secretary of State and the Illinois State Library filed an emergency rule effective May 7, 2020 to temporarily suspend resource sharing, reciprocal borrowing, and interlibrary loan requirements for library system membership in the Illinois Library System Act (23 Ill. Adm. Code 3030). Due to the extension of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation issued on May 29, 2020, Section 3030.200 (2) (C), (E) and (F) remain suspended until August 12, unless the proclamation is extended.

#### **Public Library Construction Application Deadline Extended – June 15, 2020**

Due to the statewide “Stay-at-Home” order, public library staffs, trustees and others working on a grant submission would find it difficult to put an application together by the standard deadline of April 15 due to closure and social distancing. Therefore, extending the deadline to June 15, 2020 via an emergency rulemaking (23 Ill. Adm. Code 3035.520) should provide the necessary time to complete and submit an application to the Illinois State Library. To be considered for funding, applications must be submitted electronically to [construct-grant@ilsos.gov](mailto:construct-grant@ilsos.gov) and include all required supporting documentation. Information on the required supporting documentation as well as an overview of the program can be found at [https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/publib\\_construction.html](https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/publib_construction.html). Questions should be addressed to Mark Shaffer ([mshaffer@ilsos.gov](mailto:mshaffer@ilsos.gov), 217-524-4901).

#### **ILL Survey Extended Indefinitely**

Libraries are required to annually complete the ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey before completing certification. The ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey will remain open until further notification.

#### **2020 Census Online Response Extended**

The U.S. Census Bureau has extended the online deadline to October 31. The extension was put in place because of the widespread effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The 2020 Census will help determine how many congressional seats each state gets and the distribution of \$1.5 trillion in federal spending. The Census Bureau has encouraged the public to respond to the 2020 Census online using a desktop computer, laptop, smart phone, or tablet. Participants can also respond by phone or mail.

#### **Online Learning Opportunities**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are a variety of webinars from OCLC that are of interest to Illinois libraries.. Many libraries have closed their buildings to protect both the staff and community from the spread of the coronavirus. There has been unprecedented interest in the [WebJunction Course Catalog](#), with learners using time to pursue professional development interests. With courses on topics ranging from Collection Management to Marketing to Customer Service, our collection of over 300 webinar

recordings and self-paced courses can help strengthen your knowledge and skills. For example, archived webinars include the following:

- [Virtual Town Hall, Recording Available: Libraries and the COVID-19 Crisis](#) The COVID-19 crisis has created a strain on both the personal and professional lives of library staff everywhere. As libraries respond to rapidly evolving information and guidelines, building closures, and loss of resources, staff is considering new, virtual ways to connect with and support patrons and colleagues. This recorded 90-minute session includes representatives from public, academic, and school libraries sharing their experiences.
- [Online Reference Basics](#) will help the learner to provide basic online reference service involving email and chat. The course addresses the advantages and disadvantages of online reference, gives step-by-step guidance, and provides tips and resources.
- [Youth Programming Goes Virtual-Storytimes, Crafts, Teen Activities and More](#): Educators and library staff alike are moving learning and programming to digital platforms. This article captures a list of resources and examples for virtual youth programming from public libraries.
- [Small and Rural Librarians: Leading the Way in Online Conferences](#): As part of the public health response to the coronavirus, most face-to-face conferences scheduled for upcoming months have been cancelled, with many opting for online conferences. In this context, it can be helpful to remind ourselves that library staff, from small and rural locales in particular, have been early adopters of the convening capacities of new technology.

### **Free PDF e-book—Library as Safe Haven: Disaster Planning, Response, and Recovery**

During this time of uncertainty, library workers are finding new ways to provide crucial information and services. To bolster their efforts, ALA Editions | ALA Neal-Schuman is offering a free PDF e-book of the resource *Library as Safe Haven: Disaster Planning, Response, and Recovery*. Published in cooperation with the Medical Library Association (MLA), this nuts-and-bolts manual covers such topics as follows:

- an eight-step approach to developing a risk assessment plan;
- how to draft a one-page service continuity plan;
- information on how to use mobile devices and social media effectively in times of disaster; and
- sample disaster plans, along with model exercises, manuals, and customizable communication.

The publication may be found here: <https://www.alastore.ala.org/LibraryAsSafeHavenPDF>

### **Emerging Writers Competition Entries Due on June 30**

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White is pleased to announce the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award. Named for the late award-winning poet and Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, the contest promotes creative writing, encourages local writers, and provides a unique opportunity for recognizing new literary talent in the state. The annual writers program is co-sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book. Kevin Stein, Illinois Poet Laureate 2003 – 2017, will be the final judge of the entries. The award for first place is \$500, second place is \$300, and third place is \$100. Winning poems will also be submitted for possible publication in “Ninth Letter,” “Quiddity,” and “RHINO” journals. The entry form can be found at [https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/lda96.pdf](https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lda96.pdf). For more information, contact Illinois Center for the Book Coordinator Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065.

### **Salute to Veterans**

This issue of E-News salutes Robert J. Flanagan, received his pilot training at Chanute Field in Rantoul, and served as a Flying Tiger under the command of Claire Lee Chennault in the China Burma India Theater in World War II. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at [http://www.finditillinois.org/audiodesc/veterans/Flanagan\\_Robert.mp3](http://www.finditillinois.org/audiodesc/veterans/Flanagan_Robert.mp3).

### **State Library’s comprehensive online calendar**

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

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