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Happy New Year! Today in EYE-OPENER January 9, 2017

- 1) Board Education Opportunity @ ILOC 2017
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- 1) **Board Education Opportunity @ ILOC 2017:** January 19th sets up a great opportunity for library staff and board education with the **ILOC conference**. ILOC stands for **Innovative Libraries Online Conference**; sponsored by the State Library, this is presented entirely online and is entirely free. This year's theme is "**Lean Mean Library Machine.**" Registration is open in the C.E. Catalog <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/index.cgi>



Of special interest to Iowa's library boards is the evening keynote presentation with Pat Wagner. Southeast District Consultant Becky Heil secured Pat's appearance and has this description: "... *this year, you'll hear from Pat Wagner, library trainer and consultant since 1978. Pat has conducted library board training on topics including conflict management, director searches, and board roles and ethics for libraries across the U.S. Pat is well-known for her good-humored and practical programs. Her ILOC session is title **A Lean Machine: Library Boards in the 21st Century** and her presentation is expected to include creating a 'what-if' strategic plan, building more diverse pools of trustee candidates, identifying sacred cows, and examining aspects of board management and leadership for improvement...*"

Remember that Iowa's Public Library Standards, recently revised this past July, includes standard #8 reading **"all members of the library board of trustees participate in continuing education each year."** Which makes attendance at ILOC an easy and logical fit for boards. More from Becky Heil: *"... Watch as a group or individually. Over the years, many libraries have made our ILOC event a part of their regular monthly board meeting, gathering at the library with pizza or sandwiches so everyone can watch the presentation together. Nice social approach, makes online classes not quite so solitary. Of course, you can always watch from the comfort of your own home—that's the beauty of online learning! Log into the room about 15 minutes before the session begins..."*

Find classroom links, presenter information, and the day's schedule on the **ILOC** webpages <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/iloc>



2) A Fond Farewell at Orange City PL: **Orange City** board and staff are hosting a **retirement reception tomorrow Jan10** for OCPL director **Sue Kroesche**. Sue has enjoyed a long career in Iowa libraries, beginning with her first director's job at McGregor, followed by Emmetsburg, Le Mars, and Orange City.

Over the years, Sue served on various regional, State Library, and ILA committees. She was a Special Project Consultant with Northwest Regional System for years; among many things she did in that capacity was assist NW libraries with E-Rate filing. She's the only director I know who has worked through **Planning For Results** not once but twice—first at Emmetsburg and again at Orange City. In every county where Sue has worked, colleagues have known her to be an easy and eager collaborator. And me...I've known her to be a true-blue friend ☺

Sue's **retirement open house** tomorrow runs from **2:00-5:00PM**. Northwest area library staff are welcome to stop by to wish her a happy retirement. My sentiments exactly—congratulations, Sue! I'll miss you at library gatherings, but wish you all the best as you turn to your next chapter!

3) February Fun Facts: Sue Gruber with Southwest District has eyeballed fun facts for your library to highlight in February. **Valentine's Day, National Heart Month,** and **Black History Month** are among the obvious choices. But any of these additional dates/occasions will make for nice tabletop displays, newsletter ideas, or Facebook posts. Thanks to Sue G. for these February promo possibilities!



- **February 4 == Take Your Child to the Library Day** www.takeyourchildtothelibraryday.org Begun in 2011 in Connecticut, this is now an international initiative that seeks to raise awareness about the importance of libraries in the lives of children.
- **February 7 == Safer Internet Day** <http://saferinternetday.us/> Another international promo sponsored by ConnectSafely.Org; other U.S. sponsors include Google, Facebook, LifeLock, and Microsoft.
- **February 16 == World Read Aloud Day** <http://www.litworld.org/wrad/> Since 2010, **World Read Aloud Day**, promoted by LitWorld, has grown from a simple call to action to an event that involves 18 million people online and community events in 100 countries.
- **February 17 == Random Acts of Kindness Day** <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/> Or expand the sentiment to the entire week == **Feb 12-18 is Random Acts of Kindness Week**



4) Kids First Conference 2017—Presenters Welcome: The **Kids First Conference**, sponsored by the State Library, lands in odd-numbered years. Which means **Kids First** comes back in 2017! Never too early to “**Save the Date**”—**May 1-2**, with an additional half-day post conference on **May 3**. The location is **Des Moines Holiday Inn Airport and Conference Center**.

Youth Services Consultant Merri Monks is soliciting session topics and speakers, here’s more from Merri: “... *Do you have an idea for a breakout session for the **2017 Kids First Conference**? If so, please consider making a presentation proposal. Breakout sessions are 50 minutes in length. You can co-present your session with others. Each session is awarded one free registration for the day of the presentation; two or more presenters can split the registration fee for that day.*”

*If interested in presenting a session at **Kids First 2017**, just download the proposal form from the State Library's website <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/t-z/youthservices/kidsfirst%202011/kids-first-20175>. The proposal form is available in both a PDF and a Word document. Once you've completed the proposal form, you can choose to (a) email me at merri.monks@iowa.gov or (b) fax your proposal to 515-281-6191 or (c) mail a hard copy to me at Merri Monks, State Library of Iowa, 1112 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319..” **Proposals due February 17....***



5) Meetings / Events This Week: I'll join Galva Library board meeting tonight with a BRIDGES demonstration.

Retirement reception for Sue Kroesche at Orange City PL tomorrow **Jan10** from **2:00-5:00PM**.

Wednesday is our monthly staff meeting in Des Moines— District offices will be closed, but you're welcome to contact the Des Moines office if needed = 800-248-4483.

Martin Luther King Day is next Monday January 16 and a state holiday. All State Library offices will be closed for the MLK holiday, we're back on Tuesday Jan17. Look for Monday Morning Eye-Opener again on January 23rd...

A new month in a new year brings a new variety of national webinars. Details and registration info at this webpage <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

January 10. 2:00-3:00PM. *Preschool Storytime Basics* sponsored by Texas State Library and Archives Commission <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/workshops/webinars/index.html>

January 11. 11:00AM-12:00PM. *The Psychology of Success: Why Are Some People More Likely to Succeed than Others?* sponsored by American Management Association <http://www.amanet.org/news/events-calendar.aspx>

January 11. 12:00-1:00PM. *How to Implement Things When People Hate Change* sponsored by SirsiDynix <http://www.sirsidynix.com/events/all-webinars>

January 11. 2:00-3:00PM. *Service Excellence in Challenging Times* sponsored by WebJunction <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction.html>



Monday Morning Eye-Opener
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