



# STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

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Today in EYE-OPENER February 13, 2017

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**1) E-Rate Filing Windows Extended:** Library Resource Technicians Debbie Crane and Trisha Hicks send this **E-Rate** news: this season's **E-Rate filing windows** have been considerably extended. If you've been worried that you missed the deadline—or if you've been pondering whether to participate—this is good news, there's plenty of time to begin the filing process.

**E-Rate** is a federal program that discounts telecommunication costs for schools and public libraries. If you'd like more background information before jumping in, read more here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/e/e-rate> and here <http://www.usac.org/sl/>

If you're ready to file for this season, here's the timeframe: **FORM 470**—this is the first form in the sequence and will need to be **completed by April 13**. Remember **Form 470 requires a 28-day period** for gathering bids from Internet service providers before you're able to file the next form in sequence, which is **Form 471**. Once 28 days have passed and you have collected bids, you must fill out a **bid matrix** to keep in your **E-Rate** notebook. Your Districts have copies of the 2017-2018 bid matrix; we'll be happy to supply it, just ask!

**E-Rate** discounts can save on average 60% off libraries' monthly Internet costs, with other discounts on related equipment as well. Find out more here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/e/e-rate> And feel free to contact your District Office Resource Technician with questions or if you need help to begin filing.

**2) DASH for the STASH Program:** Thanks to Central District Consultant Maryann Mori for this story about the 2017 *DASH for the STASH* program. Now in its fourth year, *DASH for the STASH* is an investor education program and poster contest that arms investors with unbiased information needed to make wise investment decisions. This program is a partnership between the Investor Protection Institute (IPI) and the Iowa Insurance Division. There is no charge for your library to participate. This year's program runs from **April 1-May 31**.



*DASH* features a series of informational posters. To play, participants visit a host location, read the content on each poster, scan the QR code to access that topic's quiz question, then submit their answers via smartphone, tablet, or computer. Each poster is rich in investor education and protection content; posters take approximately 5-10 minutes to read. **Public libraries are encouraged to become DASH host locations!**

One statewide winner will be chosen in a random drawing of eligible participants who logged the correct answers from all four posters. The winner will receive a \$1,000 contribution to a new or existing IRA account for 2017.

The *2017 DASH for the STASH* program is a great way to educate citizens about saving and investing. Plus this is a great niche for public libraries to become involved as hosts. Read more here <http://www.iinvest.org/programs/dash-for-the-stash> **BUT NOTE:** the webpage displays 2016 information still, the 2017 posters haven't been printed yet. **To participate as a 2017 Iowa DASH host, complete this Survey Monkey by March 1:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DASHiowa> Program coordinator Joanne Kuster is available for questions as well [joanne@kusterltd.com](mailto:joanne@kusterltd.com)



**3) Famous Author, Milestone Birthday:** February 7<sup>th</sup> marked a milestone birthday for one of the most beloved children's authors of all time—**Laura Ingalls Wilder**. This year marking her **150<sup>th</sup> birthday**, Laura was born in the Big Woods of Pepin, Wisconsin in 1867. Laura started writing her *Little House* books in 1930. To date, 60 million copies have been sold and translated into 40 languages.

Libraries across the country are celebrating Laura's life and legacy this month and throughout the year with local birthday parties, book displays, prairie pageants, readers' theaters, and history presentations. This website shows a listing of events in 20 states, Iowa included <http://littlehouseontheprairie.com/>

One easy “*Happy Birthday, Laura*” tribute would be to freshen your library’s collection of the ***Little House*** books. Purchase a boxed set of the ***Little House TV series***. Connect with other libraries on Facebook that are planning birthday events.

For more interesting reading and facts about Laura’s life and writing career:

- Pepin Wisconsin Laura Days <http://www.lauradays.org/>
- Minnesota Public Radio website <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2017/02/07/books-laura-ingalls-wilder-150-birthday>
- Ingalls’ Homestead in De Smet, SD <http://www.ingallshomestead.com/>
- Humanities Iowa featuring researcher and speaker Sarah Uthoff from Iowa City <https://www.humanitiesiowa.org/sarah-uthoff>

Truly a great literary programming occasion for all ages—thanks to Glenda Mulder at Laurens PL for leading me to this story. Which would make a nice topic for LIBRARY TALK...how about sharing your “***Little House on the Prairie***” plans with each other!



**4) Lobby From Home Day February 15:** This Wednesday February 15 is ILA’s Lobby From Home Day. This is a perfect opportunity for public library trustees, Friends Group members, and advocates everywhere to contact local legislators. The message is this: remind them of how valuable Iowa libraries are in hundreds of communities across the state. And how critical state funding is to maintaining libraries as vital community resources. Iowa is facing dramatic budget shortfalls this year and certain cuts to all state agencies, including the State Library. So your advocacy is especially needed this year.

The Communications Committee of ILA has put together a folder of materials that will help as you lobby your legislators this Wednesday. The folder linked here <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6M7nf6-Ew2sbEJhVzVKTHA1NEE> contains talking points and graphics showing why libraries are important to communities. You will also find a blank Publisher file and a blank graphics file in case you want to build your own graphic to send to your legislators. Remember, you don’t need to cover all the talking points with your legislators. Pick 1-2 important things that you can tell a story about.

Find your legislators here: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/find> During the legislative session, Iowa state senators can be reached at Iowa Senate, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa 50319—call 515-281-3371. Iowa state representatives can be reached at Iowa House of Representatives, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa 50319—call 515- 281-3221.

Also mark your calendars for **Wednesday March 15**—that's **ILA Legislative Day**, the annual lobbying effort at the capitol building in Des Moines. That event begins with a legislative briefing mid-afternoon, followed by a legislative reception in the Law Library at the State Capitol beginning at 4:00 PM.

But for now, please help make **Lobby From Home Day 2017** this **Wednesday February 15** a successful and concerted effort—thank you!



**5) Meetings / Events This Week:** I'm joining Paullina PL Board this afternoon with a presentation "*Public Libraries: A Community Investment*," plus road-tripping on Wednesday.

For libraries with **PLOW websites**—"Website Worktime" rolls around again this week. Catch it **Thursday Feb16 at 10:00AM** **or Friday Feb17 at 9:00AM**. Marie Harms will introduce cover pages with a focus on adding images to the carousel. **Website Worktimes** uses ZOOM software; no need to pre-register, just click here <http://zoom.us/j/5152813464> Contact your District Office with

questions or if you need help logging in.

Choose from a variety of national webinars in February—description and registration info here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

**February 13.** 1:30-2:30PM. *Adult Programming That Works* sponsored by Idaho Commission for Libraries <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/ce>

**February 14.** 1:00-2:00PM. *Teaching Tolerance* sponsored by Booklist <https://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

**February 14.** 1:00-2:00PM. *People—Difficult or Different?* sponsored by Effectiveness Institute [http://www.effectivenessinstitute.com/index.php?option=com\\_dtregister&Itemid=54](http://www.effectivenessinstitute.com/index.php?option=com_dtregister&Itemid=54)

**February 15.** 1:00-2:00PM. *Creating a Culture of Volunteer Engagement* sponsored by VolunteerMatch <http://learn.volunteermatch.org/training-topics>



**Monday Morning Eye-Opener**

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