

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener October 11, 2021

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



October 11, 2021

### NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK

Oct. 17-23, 2021

United  
for Libraries

Association of Library Trustees,  
Advocates, Friends and Foundations  
*A division of the American Library Association*

[www.ala.org/united/events\\_conferences/folweek](http://www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek)



#### Celebrate The 16th Annual Friends Group Week

**United For Libraries**, a division of the American Library Association, coordinates **Friends of Libraries Week**. This year marks the 16th annual recognition as a time to promote local Friends Groups, raise awareness of their efforts, and thank them for their work in support of libraries everywhere. You can be part of it all next week—**October 17-23**.

The [United For Libraries](#) website has lots of ideas, including a sample press release, promotional materials, social media graphics, and stories about how Friends Groups across the country support their libraries in fun and effective ways. You can also watch a recorded webinar that offers ideas on how to celebrate **National Friends of Libraries Week** within your library and throughout the community. Another video to prompt a fresh way to say "thanks" to your own Friends Group is a thank-you video filmed by the Jacksonville (FL) Public Library.

**United for Libraries** maintains a variety of resources for library friends, foundations, and trustees. Note that some of their materials are behind a pay wall, accessible to members. But among the materials that are freely available are these publications, available to download at the button below:

- Libraries Need Friends: Starting a Friends Group or Revitalizing the One You Have (PDF)

- Friends Groups: Critical Support for School Libraries (PDF)
- Power Guide for Successful Advocacy (PDF)

**How will you tout the support of your Friends Group?  
Share plans with each other on Library Talk**

**Celebrate Friends of Libraries Week October 17-23**

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## Iowa Access to Justice Summit



### Free and Online

This news is thanks to State Law Librarian Mandy Easter. The **Iowa Access to Justice Summit** will take place Thursday November 4th. Iowa librarians are invited to join other human services professionals and advocates for this free, virtual event.

The **Iowa Access to Justice Summit** will help anyone who works with the public to better understand existing legal resources and how to connect individuals and families with those resources. The desired audience includes advocates, case managers, social workers, teachers, librarians, and others in public service occupations.

Learn about identifying legal issues, navigating the court system, accessing interactive court forms, using online referral tools, and connecting clients to legal organizations whose mission is to help facilitate access to legal services.

Mandy will be participating in the summit and she encourages librarians to attend and also to share the event information with patrons as well. Join for a few sessions or stay for the day. Find the link to register at the button below

**Register For Justice Summit**



**HEALTH LITERACY MONTH**  
*Building Awareness Through Action*

## October is Health Literacy Month

October is designated as **Health Literacy Month**. Following a grim pandemic year and with COVID issues still worrisome, this is an opportune time for libraries to promote and support health literacy.

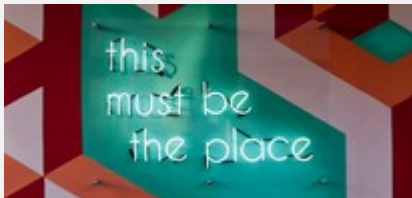
This annual, worldwide, awareness-raising event began in 1999. Since then, health care organizations, community services, government agencies, colleges, and many others have hosted a wide range of **Health Literacy Month** activities. Assisting in the cause is the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and the American Library Association (ALA): these two agencies have partnered to create [a free toolkit](#) for raising awareness of how libraries support health literacy in their communities and is part of the **Libraries Transform** campaign.

The theme for **Health Literacy Month** is ***"Building Awareness Through Action."*** From the **Health Literacy Month** website *"This month, we will work together to shift from health literacy awareness to health literacy action by building a world where all individuals have access to quality health outcomes."* To help public libraries move from health awareness to health action, the program website also provides a toolkit--linked at the button below--which includes social media graphics, video clips, print posters and flyers, even ZOOM room backgrounds.

Library policies prevent staff from answering specific patron questions regarding medical conditions or treatment options. But staff can certainly guide library users to reliable and authoritative health information, allowing patrons to make more educated health-related decisions. Promote **October as Health Literacy Month @ Your Library**.

[Read More About Health Literacy Month](#)

## This Week: PLOW Classes Ahead



### **PLOW Website Training Using Concrete5. 10:00AM—4:00PM each time**

Marie Harms will lead **in-person PLOW website classes beginning October 20<sup>th</sup> and running through**

**November 5th.** Work with your Concrete 5 website: from logging in to adding to new content, learning how the website is organized and how to build the structure. As you register for this class, be aware that you are starting over, from scratch, in building a new library website. However, you will learn how to transfer items from your old PLOW site to your new PLOW site. The class will be most beneficial if you bring your own content to add to your website.

### **About PLOW Websites**

The State Library provides freely hosted websites for any public library in Iowa. The websites are preloaded with a variety of local information specific to each library, including links to local catalogs, location, hours, contacts, and trustees. Through the library's website, users will be able access to statewide resources and databases. Learn more here

<https://www.statelibraryofiaowa.gov/index.php/libraries/search/silo/plow>

### **PLOW Class Schedule**

Here's a look at the schedule, register for the date / location nearest you inside **IALearns**

- **Oct 20** = Fayette Community Library @ Fayette

- **Oct 21** = Central Rivers AEA @ Clear Lake
- **Oct 22** = Prairie Lakes AEA @ Storm Lake
- **Oct 26** = Mahaska County ISU Extension @ Oskaloosa
- **Oct 27** = Coralville Public Library @ Coralville
- **Oct 28** = Johnston Public Library @ Johnston
- **Nov 3** = Iowa Western Community College @ Atlantic
- **Nov 4** = Western Iowa Tech. Community College @ Denison
- **Nov 5** = Lied Public Library @ Clarinda

[Register For PLOW Classes](#)



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