Courier Transition Update March 15, 2019

Beginning today, libraries are in an ILL quiet period as we start to reduce the flow of materials in the courier system. Next week is the last week of regular 1st Choice service.

As of March 25, pickups will cease, and 1st Choice route drivers will ONLY deliver (drop off) any materials they have from the warehouse to the libraries. No outgoing materials will be picked up between March 25 and March 29. Henry Industries and 1st Choice will be working to transfer existing and incoming items from the 1st Choice facilities to the Henry facilities for relabeling.

Libraries will begin preparing outgoing shipments using ONLY Henry labels. The most up-to-date version of the Henry labels will be available next week. MALA will upload the latest version to our website, and let you know when you can start using them. ONLY Henry labels should be applied to outgoing materials as of March 25.

Henry Industries will begin service to libraries on April 1. Some libraries may receive nothing the first week, but most libraries should have outgoing ILL items. Please use the first few weeks or Henry service to meet and talk to your route driver. Establishing a friendly and professional relationship right away is important.

After talking with Steve Campbell at Scenic Regional Library in Union, I want to recognize that in the first few weeks of April, many members of the 42 Missouri libraries in the Evergreen shared catalog will have a significant bump in volume during the first two weeks of Henry service, since patrons holds were not turned off. Volume in and out at these stops is likely to be double or even triple normal as Evergreen libraries "catch up" with the hold requests from their patrons. I have made Henry Industries aware of the situation and they are ready for it.

Marcy and I visited the Henry Industries warehouse and sorting facility in Kansas City yesterday. It's a very clean, very well operated shop. We met with Nick Cicero, Regional Director, and Carl Shipman, Operations Manager. They took us for a tour of their facility and answered our questions. I have a great deal of confidence that Henry Industries will provide reliable and problem-free service to our members.

All best,
Mickey

Next MALA ILL/Courier Meeting - next Wednesday, March 20 at 10 a.m.

To participate in the next MALA ILL Courier Meeting, you must first register to receive your unique login to participate.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5115244045818183171  (*updated link*)

There is a pull-down list of meeting dates for the fiscal year. You can click the link in this message multiple times to register for as many sessions as you like; you simply need to register one at a time. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Meeting dates at a glance:
March 20, 2019
April 24, 2019 *** New Date! ***
May 15, 2019
June 19, 2019
New online Job Postings

We were pleased to announce the launch of our new website at www.malalibraries.org earlier this month; you'll find it easy to navigate and much more intuitive.

The self-serve Job Bank is ready for you to list your exciting openings. Click here for the direct link. Please note that MALA will no longer include job listings in emails.

Load up your logo to make an even bigger impact. Job listings will be live for 45 days. If you fill your position before then, please let Marcy know via an email and she'll change the status.

MALA 2019 Spring Workshop:
Diversity in Children’s Literature and Programming
Friday, April 26  8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Lawrence Public Library

Join MALA and the Lawrence Public Library in exploring the various ways libraries have become more purposeful and inclusive with diversity in youth services.

Jamie Campbell Naidoo, president of the Association for Library Service to Children, will lead the morning workshop entitled Welcoming Library Spaces Where All Means All: Inclusive & Targeted Programs, Collections, & Outreach for Diverse Families. This session explores how to plan programs and outreach activities using authentic print and digital materials that affirm and celebrate accurate depictions of everyday lives and experiences of culturally diverse children, teens, and their families.

Then after lunch, join in two mirrored breakout sessions on Exploring Worlds Inside and Outside Our Communities through Picture Books with Morgan Daigneault & Matthew Harper, Exploring Windows and Mirrors with Diverse Booktalks with Kim Patton, and Diverse Programming Lightning Round with Kansas & Missouri area librarians.

Follow this link for more information and to register for the workshop.

Join MALA’s New Facebook Page!

We’ll be sharing news and events on our new Facebook page. Please take a minute to 'like' it. https://www.facebook.com/MidAmericaLibraryAlliance

This service is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Thank you for your participation with MALA!

Regards,

Mickey Coalwell
Executive Director
Mid-America Library Alliance