



Courier/ILL Newsletter | November 8, 2019

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Courier Stats**

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**UPCOMING
MALA/Courier Holidays**
(No courier service)

Thanksgiving Day & Friday
Nov. 28 & 29

Christmas Eve & Day
Dec. 24 & 25

New Year's Eve & Day
Dec. 31 & Jan. 1

MALA Update

Extra courier bags have been coming back home to MALA! Thanks to those of you who have recently cleaned house and returned some of your stockpile of courier bags. The MALA Headquarters location in Independence has its own Henry label, just like all the libraries on the service, so please feel free to send your bags (or any other supplies) home to MALA via courier any time you have too many on hand. We're glad to have them for redistribution to other member libraries.

We have put hundreds of new courier bags into circulation over the past year, and retired some stained, torn or damaged bags. If you run across a courier bag that has been damaged (zipper broken, torn or frayed), soiled or stained, or has a ripped label display window, **please throw it away**. It doesn't need to be returned to us. Just put it in the trash. We trust your judgment. A courier bag has two purposes: (1) to ensure the accurate delivery of the item(s) inside, and (2) to protect the contents from casual damage. We take a strictly utilitarian view of courier bags. Taking our cue from Mari Kondo, we thank them for their service, and dispose of them when they are no longer usable.

We have recently chosen to "co-brand" some sturdy and almost-new green canvas courier bags donated to MALA by Mid-Continent Public Library. These bags have both MALA and Mid-Continent branding. We are glad to be able to put them into service. Many of you who do heavy volume shipping, especially Evergreen libraries, will be receiving a "care package" of these new bags immediately. As always, any library can request additional bags or totes as needed. Supplies requests are filled the day you submit them, so you will generally receive supplies requests within one week.

Library Closures

The issue of library closures has come up several times recently, and may require some clarification. There are no courier stops made on MALA holidays. There are 11 MALA holidays annually, and neither our local or contracted courier services operate on those days. If your library observes holidays outside of the 11 MALA holidays, such as Veteran's Day or Truman's Birthday, we need advance notice from you to suspend your service. Same for planned in-service training days and closures.

If the library is closed to the public, but staff is available and you would still like to have a delivery on a regularly scheduled delivery day (not including MALA holidays), we can arrange that. Let MALA know, and we will approve the stop even though the library is closed to the public.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 20, 2020

President's Day

Feb. 17, 2020

Memorial Day

May 26, 2020

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Facebook**

Sudden or emergency closures due to weather, road conditions, power outages, broken water pipes, bomb scares, gas leaks, bedbugs, funerals, or other crazy stuff need to be reported to MALA as soon as possible. Call, text, or email us. If we have enough notice to suspend your delivery service, we will.

Henry Industries has kindly offered make-up deliveries on weeks where a delivery day is missed (not including MALA holidays). If you want a make-up delivery, say, for Wednesday after an unscheduled closure on Tuesday, then let MALA know, and we'll arrange it. Henry drivers are paid by MALA by the stop, so it's important for MALA to always have accurate information about courier deliveries.

MALA Professional Development Training 2.020

Join MALA as we kick off our new workshop and professional training calendar for 2020 with "What Do Your Policies Say About Your Library?" presented by Tiffany Hentschel.

And don't miss this opportunity to experience the gorgeous new Indian Creek Library facility.

What Do Your Policies Say About Your Library?

Learn to write policies that reflect your library's mission

with Tiffany Hentschel, M.A., SPHR, SHRM-SCP

Friday, December 13, 2019

9 AM to Noon

8:30 AM check-in

Olathe Indian Creek Library

16100 W. 135th St., Olathe, KS 66062

This fast-paced, half-day workshop will help you spot the weakness in your current policies and write new ones that are legally sound, fair and enforceable.

[Register Here](#)

Early Bird discounts until November 22.

Missouri Author Award Committee seeking new members

The Missouri Author Award Committee is seeking five new members for 2020.

Participation in the committee includes the following: Reading multiple book titles, both fiction and nonfiction.

Attendance at three main meetings: November/December (phone/Skype); March (phone/Skype); and June (in-person).

Interested volunteers should contact LynnDee Wathen at Mid-Continent Public Library, lwathen@mymcpl.org or 816-650-3212. Responses must be received by November 20.



