

MONTHLY REPORT

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Subject: Monthly Activity Report - January 2017

- The new year brought with it a number of changes to WLS-purchased databases. Subscriptions to the following databases were not renewed: Flipster, IndieFlix, OneClickDigital and Rocket Languages. New additions to the databases offered through WLS are: Mango Languages, Press Reader, Merck Manual and hoopla.
- Because the Library previously subscribed to hoopla independently of WLS, a bug was introduced when our patron accounts were migrated to fall under the WLS-hoopla umbrella. When attempting to borrow a title, a patron would receive an error indicating that the account was invalid or expired. Tech support for Midwest Tapes, the provider of hoopla, was contacted and the problem was corrected as of the 18th.
- On the 10th, Dave Mrksic of DRS Imaging Group was on-site to set up the e-Image Data ScanPro 3000 microfilm scanner we received for a two week trial. Dave also provided training for several of us. We found the scanner to be of very high quality with excellent features, and are going ahead with the purchase of the scanner. It will eventually be made available for public use, but will first be used to digitize our local newspaper microfilm collection, a project being coordinated by our local history librarian, Ben Himmelfarb.
- There is a problem accessing the children's reading resource, Tumblebooks, when using a mobile device remotely. Tumblebooks at some point apparently created a web server dedicated for access from a mobile device; when a connection from a mobile device is seen, it is redirected to that server which returns an invalid account error. Both Tumblebooks and the WLS Help Desk have been contacted about the problem.
- A number of patrons had contacted us to report they were unable to place a hold on certain eBook titles from OverDrive; instead, an error message would appear instructing them to add the title to their wish list and try to check it out later. The problem was determined to have arisen from a setting in the OverDrive Marketplace that controls whether or not a hold can be placed on metered content, that is, titles that have a specific number of allowable checkouts. Both the wording and the behavior of that setting had undergone changes recently which led to the problem. OverDrive has been contacted and the request has been made that they either change the behavior with regard to metered content, or at the very least more clearly indicate to patrons what to expect.
- In order to provide increased security, we have upgraded EZProxy to the latest version. EZProxy is the service application that provides remote access to our subscription databases. Although we had a perpetual license for the version we were using, OCLC who owns EZProxy implemented an annual subscription model for all versions subsequent to that one. The fact that support for the version we were using is to end as of September of this year further led to our decision to upgrade.