

## News Release

### Malden Public Library Is Upgrading Its System

On December 13, Malden Public Library, a member of the Metro Boston Library Network (MBLN), will begin using a new integrated library system, Polaris. Since our last major upgrade in 2002 to the current system, we have had quite a few software updates, but we have also found many problems. We are very excited about the change so we can deliver better and more efficient service to you and the library operations, both today and in the future, can be adequately supported by technology,

Preparations have already begun before Polaris goes into active usage. Most of them are behind the scenes. In the following weeks, these preparations will grow more intensive and might affect your experience with library services:

- From November 25 through December 13, your requests for materials from any library will not be processed, although you can still request them online or in the library. No requests will be lost.
- On December 9 at 5 pm, Telecirc (telephone renewal line) will be suspended. You will not be able to renew any library item over the phone. In response, due dates falling between December 8 through December 20 will be adjusted to December 21.
- From December 10 through December 13,
  - There will be a very limited number of computers at circulation. Please try to return library items later to avoid long waiting lines. There will be no items due back on these 3 days.
  - A library card is absolutely required to check out materials, to use public computers, or to reserve museum passes.
  - No new or replacement library cards will be issued.
  - Bibliocommons, our online catalog, will be available only for informative searching of materials. Library card account information cannot be updated during this time, but we can assure you that no information will be lost or misplaced. All information will be updated on December 13. Since the catalog's renewal function will not function normally, the due date will have been adjusted to December 21 if the original due date is between December 8 through December 20.

What will not be affected includes:

- Yes, the library will be open as usual, Monday to Wednesday 9 am to 9 pm, Thursday 9 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 9 pm, Friday and Saturday 9 am to 6 pm.
- All library programs will be held as planned, for example: Interview workshop on November 26, Song & Rhyme Time every Tuesday and Saturday morning, ESL conversation class every Wednesday afternoon, Local history at the historic Converse Memorial Building every Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon, Kids winter craft time on December 1, Adult jewelry craft time on December 3, and the you-can-not-miss art tour of Converse Memorial Building on December 11.
- Public computers with internet and popular application software will be available as usual.
- Museum passes will be available to be reserved and checked out.
- Online full text articles databases will be available.
- Online language learning courses, Mango Languages and Little Pim, will be available.
- Many more library services will still be available.

We are trying very hard to minimize any interruption of library services. We appreciate your patience and understanding and apologize for any inconvenience that may occur. If you have any questions, please call us at 781-324-0218.