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## #MaskUp

Last week we donned our landmark lions, Sol and Edgar, with custom masks made by retired SCSL librarian, Deborah Hotchkiss. The lions frame the entry to our building and serve as mascots, so we were proud to recognize that they too were complying with the mask ordinance from the City of Columbia and Richland County. Social media posts

showcasing the masks were shared by Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin, local news organizations, and multiple libraries nationwide.

Unfortunately, the masks were removed and discarded at approximately 11:00 p.m. on Monday, July 6. We are happy to report that a tip helped us to recover the masks. They are receiving some special care before being placed back on Sol and Edgar. Although we are disappointed that someone defaced our library, which belongs to all South Carolinians, we want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort that Deborah Hotchkiss devoted to protecting Sol and Edgar, and the entire community for its continued support. If you have any information leading to the identification of the individual(s) responsible for removing the masks, please contact our reference department at 803-734-8026 or [reference@statelibrary.sc.gov](mailto:reference@statelibrary.sc.gov).

## SC Libraries



### Stand Out on Social Media

Messaging matters... especially now. Patrons check social media to stay in touch with the library. This is your place to shine. Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter provide a unique way to communicate with followers, and

posting professionally requires a different strategy than what you use for personal accounts. Let our communications team help you get the most from your library's social media accounts. [Register to join us](#) for a free training on July 21 at 10:30 a.m. and learn how to take your social media presence from amateur to outstanding.

### Design for Impact

Does your library's website need a makeover? Or, maybe you just want a crash course in creating and organizing content. Either way, you will hone new skills during our [Web](#)

[Design for Beginners](#) training on August 4. Communications Director Dr. Curtis Rogers and Web Developer Kevin Shelton will use basic web design standards and principles to show you how to design your library's



site from a patron point of view and make it more accessible and inclusive. [Registration](#) is free.



## It Only Takes an Hour

Since patrons do not always come to us, this month's PCI webinars teach us how to reach people in their space. On

July 15, [explore the world of scholastic eSports](#) as two librarians explain how they use gaming and online tournaments to engage an audience that doesn't regularly enter a library. Join us on July 22 to learn how library staff can [communicate with non-native English speaking patrons](#) and deliver quality service. Finally, expand your library's reach with free advertising from Google. Kathy Dempsey, author of *The Accidental Library Marketer*, hosts [How To Get \\$10,000 / Month In Free Advertising For Your Library From Google](#) on July 29. Devoting an hour to these trainings each week is another way to build your skill set and do your part to make the library community stronger.

## State Employees

### Do Your Homework

Our [Government and Statistics Libguide](#) can help to strengthen your work with facts and figures that attract attention and cultivate credibility. This go-to reference for state agency data is organized by category and links you to websites, publications, and online databases that are devoted to all things state government. Can't find the agency you need? Glance over the [State Agency Name History](#), to see previous and current names of state agencies. Pump up your publications and presentations with value-driven data that is just a few clicks away.



## SC Residents

### Free Access Extended

Although we do not know what the upcoming school year will look like, students and parents can prepare for





learning. Tutor.com offers [a free summer webinar series](#) that can help to create good study habits whether students are at home or in the classroom. Topics include study skills, goal setting, and stress management. There is also a session that is devoted to helping parents prepare their children for middle and high school. Stay in-the-know with Tutor.com, your source for all things education.

## Expanding the Search

Our search to find information about PFC James E. Wise from Dillon, who is buried in Margraten Cemetery in The Netherlands, gained international attention. De Gezichten van Margraten (The Faces of Margraten) is an organization that aims to put a



face to the American soldiers who are memorialized at the American War Cemetery in Margraten, the Netherlands. Representatives from the organization responded to our social media posts about PFC Wise wanting to know if we could help research 32 other South Carolina soldiers who are buried in Margraten Cemetery. The research is underway. Follow our progress on social media using the hashtag #SCMargratenHeroes.

## Black Lives Matter & Libraries

*Dr. Nicole Cooke  
UofSC School of  
Information Science*

## A Topic for Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Racial equity is not a new topic in libraries. Scholars and librarians were devoted to discussing equity, diversity, and inclusion long before it made headlines. Dr. Nicole Cooke is the Augusta Baker Endowed

Chair in Childhood Literacy and an associate professor at the University of South Carolina's School of Information Science. Part of her research focuses on diversity and social justice in librarianship. She joins Communications Director Dr. Curtis Rogers on the [LibraryVoicesSC podcast](#) to talk about how recent

events shed new light on an existing issue and the role that libraries must play to establish themselves as a place where all are welcome. Listen online on [Podbean](#), [Stitcher](#), [TuneIn Radio](#) or your favorite podcast app.

## From Our Collection



Since many of you may miss the joy of celebrating groups of children and their reading accomplishments, we thought that it would be fun to share this photo from the [South Carolina Children's Library Services Collection](#), which is part of our digital library. It was taken in 2001 to honor the gold medal readers from the Greenwood County Library summer reading program. We can only imagine what successful paths these now young adults must be on after embracing reading at such young ages.

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