

## **Polaris Upgrade Coming – With Some Cool New Features**

A Polaris upgrade will take place on the morning of Oct. 25. As usual, Polaris will be offline from around 7:00 a.m. till mid-day. You'll be able to use offline mode for checkouts, but won't be able to do anything else. I think (hope!) the inconvenience will be worth it, because this upgrade includes a lot of useful new features:

### **"You Saved" message on checkout receipts**

We can have a message on checkout receipts that tells the customer "You saved \$XXX by using the library instead of buying these items." It can also tell them how much they've saved this year, and even a lifetime total. It gets the dollar amounts from the prices in the item records. We can customize the message however we want, and have it appear on printed receipts and on email receipts.

### **Patron address-check and expiration blocks will be removed automatically**

After you reset a patron's address-check date or expiration date, Polaris will automatically remove the blocks on the patron's record.

### **Ebooks won't be listed as "almost overdue"**

On the "almost overdue" notice, items from Overdrive will no longer be listed as "almost overdue." They will be listed under "other items checked out."

### **Improvements to search suggestions: "Did you mean..."**

When a customer does a search in the PAC, Polaris's suggestions for "Did you mean..." will only include terms that produce search results in our catalog.

### **New format names and icons**

Some new names and icons have been created for formats such as Blu-ray+DVD, Video Game – even Vinyl!

## ***(Cont.) Polaris Upgrade Coming – With Some Cool New Features***

### **Editing saved reports in Simply Reports**

In Simply Reports, you will now be able to edit a saved report and save the edited version.

### **Improvements to Leap – the staff web interface**

A number of features are being added to Leap. You will now be able to:

- See the number of held items a patron has available for pickup
- Search for hold requests
- View the holds queue for a title
- Change the position of hold requests in the queue (if you have the permission)
- Do an in-house check-in
- Merge patron records
- Manage item records at check-in (edit the status, collection code, etc. – with permission)
- Create on-the-fly records at checkout
- View the notices that have been sent for a particular item
- Link from an item to the previous borrower

**As always, if you have any questions, please let Bill Taylor know: [wtaylor@wmrl.info](mailto:wtaylor@wmrl.info).**