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West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC) Monthly Newsletter

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Issue 97

July 2019

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From the Secretary

July 2019

Out with the Old: In with the New



In the case of the West Virginia American Water Company, this phrase refers to the removal of the old, crumbling waterline in front of my house, the installation of a bigger, better waterline, and lots of mess and traffic delays in between. The project is very similar to fiscal year change-over time.

One of the many stresses of this time at the Library Commission involves end-of-year supplemental grants. While librarians across the state are prioritizing needs and deciding where a \$5,000 grant would do the most good, Library Commission staff is calculating and re-calculating to determine just how much money is available.

My role in the process is reviewing and ranking the grant applications regarding need, general rationale, institutional

capacity, alignment with Library Commission priorities, etc., and creating multiple scenarios dependent on the funds available.

Not surprisingly, almost 60% of the applications were for facility needs. This points out the necessity to keep advocating that funds be appropriated for the Library Facilities Improvement Fund established by the Legislature in the 2018 session. The Library Commission requested but did not receive facility funds in its fiscal year 2019 appropriation. We will be requesting facility funds again for fiscal year 2020. A shorter, project specific survey of facility needs will be sent to public library directors early this Fall to gather information to present to legislators.

Applications for programming projects ranged from \$500 to \$5,000. This is encouraging because library programs, tailored to community needs, strengthen the library and the community. This year's Collection Enhancement applications targeted young adults, special formats, and the creation of an entrepreneur and business collection.

Reviewing applications for supplemental grants provides a snapshot of needs and aspirations in public libraries. After hours of pondering and developing spreadsheets in multiple colors, I was delighted to be told that funds were available to fund all the applications. This situation is not a periodic event like a Blue Moon or Halley's Comet. Just because it happened once does not presage it ever happening again. Now we are just waiting on approval from the Governor's Office.



TRUSTEE TIPS

Jeanette M. Rowsey, WVLA Trustees Division Chair

Happy Summer! I look forward to hearing from my West Virginia colleagues about the ALA Convention in Washington D.C. that has just concluded at the time of this writing, and sharing the latest with my fellow trustees in the coming months.

In the meantime, as many of us settle into vacation mode, I have a summer reading recommendation: Susan Orlean's *The Library Book* (Hardcover, 336 pages. Published October 16th, 2018 by Simon & Schuster).

After winning a copy in a prize basket (from our local Craft Beer Book Club) at a recent library fundraiser. I found the book to be a real page-turner. Orlean, an award winning reporter for the *New Yorker*, researched deeply into the Los Angeles library fire of 1986. The result is part true crime story and part history book, but at its heart is a love letter to public libraries and the casts of characters who keep them running.

To quote Goodreads, this book is a "thrilling journey through the stacks that reveals how these beloved institutions provide much more than just books—and why they remain an essential part of the heart, mind, and soul of our country. It is also a master journalist's reminder that, perhaps especially in the digital era, they are more necessary than ever."



New Roof for the Belington Public Library



In June, the Belington Public Library used a combination of local library funding and a supplemental grant from the Library Commission to install a new roof to the nearly 40 year old building. Library Director Tammy Smith said she was very happy with the much-needed upgrade and wanted to thank the Library Commission for all of its generous support.

WVLC Executive Secretary Karen Goff congratulated the library for this major building improvement, and pointed out that this is just one example of the facility needs of public libraries all across West Virginia. She says the Library Commission will continue its drive for additional library renovation funding through the Library Facilities Improvement Fund in the next legislative session.

U.S Census Asks for Library Assistance

The U.S. Census already has begun operations for the 2020 Census count and is seeking applicants now. These part-time jobs pay \$13.50 to \$15 an hour throughout WV, plus 58 cents per mile. Applicants must be 18 to be hired, but can apply when they are 17. There is no upper age limit.

As of this Census, applications must be made online, so access to public computers at public libraries is very important. Applicants don't have to own technology — workers will be given devices to use — but they will need to have e-mail addresses. Libraries are asked to post [this flyer](#) in high traffic areas.



Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Libraries Receive EBSCO Grant



The Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library system will receive \$100,000 in a major grant from EBSCO for a solar panel project. The solar panels will be installed at the Hedgesville Library branch and are expected to save the library up to \$9,000 annually in electricity use.

Library Director Gretchen Fry credits Branch Manager Dana Phelps with most of the heavy lifting during the grant proposal process and also tips her hat to Kelly Tanksley, MBCPL Development & Community Outreach Manager, and Lynn Walker, MBCPL Finance & Human Resource Manager.

Helvetia Public Library One of Eight Libraries Selected by National Researchers

Researchers from the **Rural Library Service & Social Wellbeing Project** have selected the Helvetia Public Library as a case-study location. Helvetia was chosen after the researchers conducted a national data study of community health and library performance, and after interviewing library director Jerianne Davis. Margo Gustina, the project lead, said "Jerianne's bonds with the community are evident in her approach. We are so excited to learn more about Helvetia."

Gustina and Eli Guinnee, New Mexico State Librarian, visited in June,



and conducted interviews with residents and local groups from the small Randolph County community. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is funding the nation-wide, three-year Rural Library Service & Social Wellbeing study, targeting communities in West Virginia, Iowa, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York, Wisconsin, and Vermont.

The Library Commission Welcomes New Team Members

The West Virginia Library Commission would like to welcome two new members to the WVLC family.

- **Jon Barker** spent two years working in the Library Commission's Special Services Division before leaving for North Carolina in 2017. He rejoins the team after working as an assistant librarian at the Chapel Hill Public Library. While away, Jon earned his Masters of Library Science degree from Clarion University and returns as a reference librarian in the WVLC's Library & Development Services department.
- **Greg Coleman** is the newest member of the WVLC Building Services team. Prior to coming to the Library Commission, Greg spent 20 years working for the McJunkin Corporation in Nitro.

Jon and Greg...welcome aboard!

WVLC Mourns the Loss of Terry Matheny

The Library Commission lost a member of the WVLC family when Terry Matheny died unexpectedly on May 7th. Terry was employed by the Commission for 42 years, primarily in the Special Services Department - working with the blind and physically handicapped. She retired in 2016 but continued to share her experience, skills, and knowledge as a volunteer in Special Services. Terry was 64 years old.



2019 Bibliostat Survey is Now Open



The **2019 Bibliostat reporting window** is now open and will close on **Thursday, August 15th**. The annual survey is designed to collect comparative data on public libraries for national, state, and local use. Public libraries are required to complete the survey each year.

Training sessions for the new portal are available.

- Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 3:00 pm - register at <https://wvlc.libcal.com/event/4339653>
- Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 11:00 am - register at <https://wvlc.libcal.com/event/5515081>

To complete the 2019 survey, you must use the new Bibliostat link - <https://collectconnect.baker-taylor.com/login.aspx>. Links from previous years can no longer be used.

To qualify for the Shirley Smith Award, surveys must be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday, August 2nd.

For more information during the survey period, contact **Heather Campbell-Shock** at (304) 558-2045 or email her at heather.s.campbell@wv.gov.

Summer Reading 2019

A little bit of NASA made an appearance in Philippi recently. As part of the Philippi Public Library's Summer Reading Program, attendees were treated to the Starlab Planetarium from the Educator Resource Center at the Katherine Johnson IV&V Facility in Fairmont.



According to Philippi Public Library Director, Judy Larry, the library staff received training from the NASA facility to use the inflatable planetarium for their Summer Reading event. Teen Services Librarian Casey Griffith took the helm and lead visitors through the night sky, discussing constellations, planets, and the Milky Way galaxy. When inflated the structure is 11 feet tall and 16 feet across, therefore the library's event had to be held off-site.

Besides the planetarium centerpiece, there were many other fun and educational activities for children to explore during the day camp. A perennially popular activity at the

library's summer reading event is the make a chia pet project. Larry said they began doing the chia pet project many years ago using a project idea from that year's summer reading manual then decided to do it the next summer. Each year since that first one, the type of pet changes to match the summer's theme. This year attendees made alien chia pets.

Kids decorate a clear plastic cup then filled it with potting soil and grass seeds. In past years, the pets lived at the library. Griffith said the kids really enjoy coming in and seeing how much they grow over the summer.

Other activity stations for the day included some art with making bookmarks and STEM with building with magnetic items. The magnets were brought out from the library's stores of items. They had been purchased from previous grant the library received.

If your library is doing exciting summer events, let us know. Contact **Youth Services Consultant, Lisa Hechesky**, at 304-558-2045 or lisa.hechesky@wv.gov.



WVLC Notices

- **July 4th - Independence Day:** WVLC is closed
- **West Virginia Library Commission:** Job opening for a Digital Resources Librarian
- **St. Albans Public Library:** Job opening for a Branch Manager
- **Pioneer Memorial Public Library:** Sandra Parrish is the new Library Director
- **Kansas State University Libraries - Manhattan, KS:** Job opening for Electronic Resources Librarian
- **University of Texas at Arlington - Arlington, TX:** Job opening for an Acquisitions Librarian
- **Brandeis University Library- Boston, MA:** Job opening for Resources Sharing Coordinator

PLA, ALA, and Capital One Partner for Library Project

The Public Library Association (PLA) and American Library Association (ALA) are working with Capital One Financial Corporation to bring innovative financial well-being resources to public libraries across the U.S. Through this project, PLA and ALA will help public libraries nationwide learn about Capital One's [Ready, Set, BankSM program](#), which teaches consumers basic mobile banking skills. Ready, Set, Bank is designed specifically for older adults, and offers numerous, unbranded videos to guide learners through every step of the process, with overviews and step-by-step tutorials to help them manage their finances online -- regardless of where they bank. The curriculum is also available in Spanish, through Listos, Clic, AvanceSM.

The financial well-being resources on **Ready, Set, Bank** will supplement the existing courses on PLA's [DigitalLearn.org](#) with helpful videos on online banking matters. ALA has also recognized Capital One for its financial support by naming the company as a Library Champion at the \$25,000 (Sustainer) level.

[ProgrammingLibrarian.org](#), a website of the ALA Public Programs Office, offers numerous examples of successful financial well-being programs in public libraries. Visit the site to learn more.



**WVLC Book
Discussion
GROUP**
JOIN
and
ADD
to the DISCUSSION!

surprises everyone as she breaks with tradition to become the first high school football coach in Texas—comes to life.

Football is the heartbeat of Brownwood, Texas. Every Friday night for as long as assistant principal Tylene Wilson can remember, the entire town has gathered in the stands, cheering their boys on. Each September brings with it the hope of a good season and a sense of unity and optimism.

Featured Book of the Month!

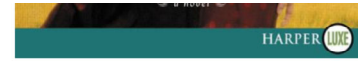
When the Men Were Gone

by Marjorie Herrera Lewis

In Marjorie Herrera Lewis's debut historical novel the inspiring true story of high school teacher Tylene Wilson—a woman who



Now, the war has changed everything. Most of the Brownwood men over 18 and under 45 are off fighting, and in a small town, the possibilities are limited. Could this mean a season without football? But no one counted on Tylene, who learned the game at her daddy's knee. She knows more about it than most men, so she does the unthinkable, convincing the school to let her take on the job of coach.



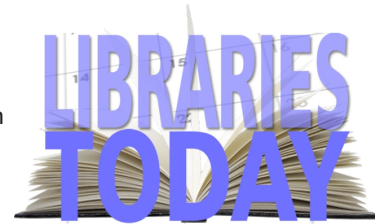
Faced with extreme opposition—by the press, the community, rival coaches, and referees and even the players themselves—Tylene remains resolute. And when her boys rally around her, she leads the team—and the town—to a Friday night and a subsequent season they will never forget.

Based on a true story, *When the Men Were Gone* is a powerful and vibrant novel of perseverance and personal courage.

Contact Library & Development Services to request this book for your book group at 304-558-2041 or at steven.m.stover@wv.gov.

Tune In to the Latest Episode of *Libraries Today*!

West Virginia Public Libraries play a vital role in the lives of thousands of Mountain State residents. Over the years...state libraries have provided a solid foundation and been an inspiration for generations of West Virginia authors. And for more than 2,000 state residents...the State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has provided a crucial link to reading and learning for those who don't have the luxury of walking into a public library on their own.



In the July episode of *Libraries Today*, the show visits with West Virginia author Meredith Sue Willis and WVLC Special Services librarian Jasmyne Lewis-Combs. Check out *Libraries Today* - now available on the [Library Television Network's YouTube Channel!](#)





THE JERRY KLINE COMMUNITY Impact PRIZE

From *Library Journal* and the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation

The *Library Journal* has partnered with the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation to award **\$250,000** to a U.S. Library transforming its community in groundbreaking ways. The winning library will be announced November 2019 and showcased in *Library Journal* in print and online.

How does your library impact the community? Let the *Library Journal* know!

Submission deadline is August 1, 2019.

All U.S. Public Libraries are eligible to apply. for more information and complete application details, visit

Libraryjournal.com/CommunityImpact.

Applications are Now Open for ABOS Annual Awards



The **Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS)** offers annual awards that recognize outstanding service, support for conference attendance, and the education of a student currently enrolled in a Library Science degree program. Applications are now being accepted for these awards.

John Philip Excellence in Outreach Award - \$300

The ABOS John Philip Award is given to recognize outstanding contributions and prominent leadership by an individual in Bookmobile and Outreach Services. John Philip, known to all as "Mr. Bookmobile", spent his long and honorable career as an advocate of Bookmobile and Outreach Services. John Philip passed away on February 1, 2016. He is the "Father" of the National Bookmobile Conference which started in 1986 and has now evolved into the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services. Through his strong leadership and high profile advocacy, Bookmobiles have been recognized as a viable library outreach service. This award honors his dedication and tireless work and serves as a pinnacle for all Bookmobile and Outreach staff to aspire to reach.

Carol Hole Conference Attendance Award - Three (3) \$500 travel grants

Carol Combs Hole provided exemplary leadership on behalf of libraries, bookmobile and outreach services throughout her 32 year career as a professional public librarian. She retired from distinguished service to the Alachua County Library District on March 1, 2006 and died on October 1, 2007. The three (3) \$500 travel grants include free conference registration and a stipend for travel expenses and/or accommodations for the conference. The 2019 Conference will be held in Omaha, Nebraska on October 23-25, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Downtown/Old Market. The winners automatically will be registered for the conference. Carol Hole Award winners will be notified by August 23, 2019.

Bernard Vavrek Scholarship - \$1,000

In order to contribute to the education and training of library staff working in the area of bookmobile and outreach services, ABOS has created the Bernard Vavrek Scholarship. It is awarded annually to a student who has been accepted into or is currently enrolled in a Library and/or Information Science graduate degree program at an ALA accredited school, and who is interested in this particular field within the library profession. A check will be sent directly to the ALA accredited library school where the applicant is currently enrolled to be applied to the next term of study. Dr. Bernard Vavrek, Professor of Library Science and Chair of the Library Science Department at Clarion University, retired after teaching at Clarion from 1971-2008. He co-founded with John Philip the "Great American Bookmobile Conference", running it for many years until ABOS was formed and took over management of the conference. This scholarship honors Dr. Vavrek's profound commitment to librarianship.

For more information on how to apply, visit the [ABOS website](#).

Nominations Open for The I Love My Librarian Award

Nominations for the I Love My Librarian Award are now open! Library users from public, school, university, college and community college libraries are invited to submit nominations online through October 21, 2019. Ten winners will receive a \$5,000 cash prize and a travel stipend to attend the award ceremony during ALA's Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Philadelphia.

Each nominee must be a librarian with a master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association in library and information studies or a master's degree with a specialty in school library media from an educational unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. Nominees must be currently working in the United States in a public library, a library at an accredited two- or four-year college or university or at an accredited K-12 school.



To submit nominations, visit the ALA's [website](#).

Civic Life Institute 2019 Comes to Parkersburg

The West Virginia Center for Civic Life holds its 2019 Institute forum on July 18th and 19th in Parkersburg. The 2 day session will be held on the campus of WVU Parkersburg and is designed to find more effective ways for West Virginians to talk to each other - even when they disagree. *Especially* when they disagree.



The forum will explore effective ways to:

- Facilitate discussions that consider different points of view
- Bring people together to talk about important issues
- Move from productive talk to effective action
- Learn about current initiatives that help your community talk and work together on issues that affect our state
- Connect with the growing network of West Virginians who are building these practices in their own communities

For more information and details on how to register, visit the West Virginia Center for Civic Life [web site](#).



[Click Here to Read More About the WVLC Continuing Education Requirements for Directors & Staff](#)

	<p>View Upcoming & Archived Webinars</p> <p>CLICK HERE</p> 
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	<p>View Upcoming Webinars & Training</p> <p>CLICK HERE</p> 
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July Classes Spotlight:

Online Classes:

- [Introduction to Copyright for Digitization](#) - 7/10
- [LYRASIS Trending Topics - Collaboration through Analysis](#) - 7/11
- [Disaster Planning and Preparedness](#) - 7/23
- [Introduction to Emergency Digital Collecting](#) - 7/24
- [OpenRefine: Basics of Tidying up your Data](#) - 7/31



Highlighted Content from WebJunction for July 2019

These resources can help you strengthen your library and services to the community, explore them today!

- [Community Engagement - Redefining the Library as Town Square](#): Pam Sandlian Smith, director of the Anythink Libraries in Colorado shares her thoughts on how “libraries are evolving, leaning outside of our walls, [and]

connecting with our communities in new and powerful ways.” To support this, the library has adopted the concept of the library as town square – and her insights will help you think about how your library can put your community at the center of everything.

- [Supercharged Storytimes Project Concludes, Learning Continues](#): Are your storytimes supercharged? We recently wrapped a four-year project and have created a wealth of resources to help you strengthen the effectiveness of storytimes in your community. Check out the project learnings and how you can use the free resources to build your skills and confidence in delivering storytimes.

Upcoming Webinars

If you can't attend a live session, all WebJunction webinars are recorded and available for free in the [course catalog](#).

Hooray for Freedom! Part One: Privacy, Confidentiality, and Intellectual Freedom in the Library

Wednesday, July 11, 2019 ♦ 3:00 pm ♦ 1 hour

[Register here](#).

Privacy, confidentiality, and intellectual freedom are core values of librarianship that are easy to agree with, but difficult to implement. Hooray for Freedom! will help you assess your professional practice, give you the legal and ethical context to support democracy in your library, and help you identify practical ways to implement improvements.

In this webinar, learners will:

- Gain familiarity with the legal undergirding of intellectual freedom in libraries.
- Recognize methods that help shrink the gap between ethics and practice for libraries of any size.
- Learn strategies to use in real-time situations related to the legal and ethical foundations of library practice.

Presented by: **Margo Gustina**, Deputy Director, Trustee Development, Southern Tier Library System (NY), 2018 Library Journal Mover & Shaker, and past-president of New York Library Association Rural Libraries Round Table; and **Eli Guinnee**, State Librarian, New Mexico State Library, co-founders of [Hooray4.org](#).

Events · WebJunction Events Calendar

WebJunction Events Calendar

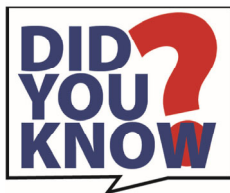
To view a complete list of past WebJunction webinars, go to: [WebJunction Event Archives](#)



WebJunction webinars are live audiovisual programs that are conducted online via WebEx web conferencing. Anyone who has an Internet connection can participate, listening to the audio broadcast through speakers or headset, or via phone. These **free** events allow you to meet and learn from library leaders and fellow library practitioners.

WebJunction's catalog of courses and webinar archives on library topics is now open to all library workers and volunteers across the nation. A certificate of completion is provided after you have completed any course or webinar that you enroll in [Catalog >](#)

Click to View »



Pocahontas County's first library in Marlinton opened in 1953 in the Mayor's office. Over the next two decades, the library was housed in several locations until moving to a home donated by the McClintic family in 1974. After that building was declared unsafe 20 years later, the McClintic family bequeathed a large amount of money for a new building. Although a devastating flood in 1996 caused major damage to the library in its temporary home, the new McClintic Public Library opened in 2000. The Pocahontas Library system now includes 4 branches - Durbin, Green Bank, Hillsboro and Linwood, and serves over 9,000 area residents.

Mark Your Calendar!



- July 1:** National U.S. Postage Stamp Day
July 4: Independence Day
July 7: Robert Heinlein's Birthday
July 21: Ernest Hemingway's Birthday
July 28: Beatrix Potter's Birthday
July 31: J.K. Rowling's Birthday

You're the Super Star!

Have a story to tell or a photo to share?
Click Here to Email Us!

Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis. The West Virginia Library Commission provides no guarantee as to the security, reliability, or accuracy of information provided herein. Funding for West Virginia Library Commission programs and services, including this newsletter, is provided by the State of West Virginia and the U.S. Institute for Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the West Virginia Library Commission.



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Karen E. Goff

Executive Secretary

West Virginia Library Commission

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