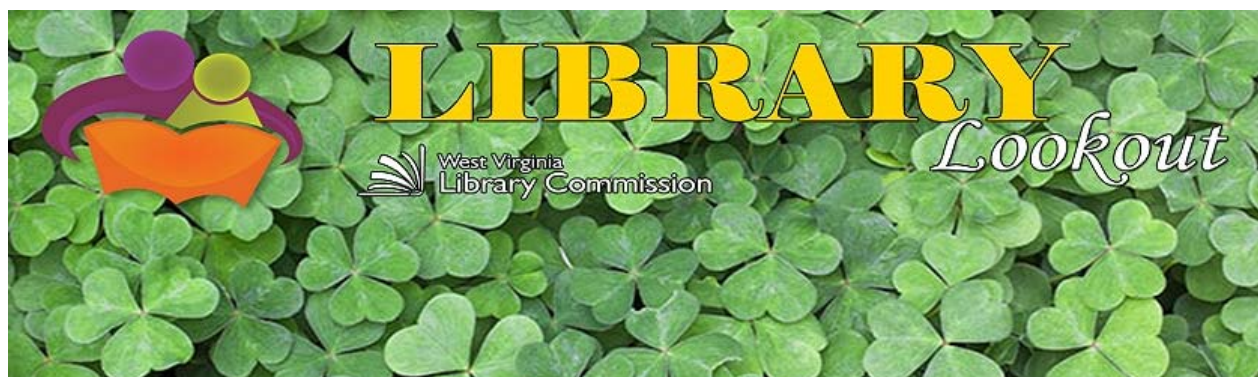


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West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC) Monthly Newsletter

[View this email in your browser](#)**Issue 93****March 2019**

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## From the Secretary

**March 2019**

Throughout the Legislative session, library supporters across the state have been talking about **Books, Buildings, and Broadband**. Your voices have been heard. Every time I mention broadband to a legislator I get the response,



“Yes, I’ve been hearing about that from my librarians. What can I do to help?” I am glad to report that a solution to the longstanding issue of high cost for low internet speeds in public libraries on the Library Commission’s State Library Network is on the horizon.

After a series of meetings and discussions with representatives from the Governor’s Office, the Office of Technology, the Purchasing Division, WVNET, and interested legislators, the Library Commission has received assurance that it will be exempted from the current state data transport contract. There is still some paperwork needed to make this official but the Library Commission has been instructed to begin the research process and initial procurement document drafting.

What does that mean? “Research process” means determining the best approach to soliciting proposals from multiple

broadband providers in compliance with State Purchasing and E-rate regulations. "Procurement process" means the actual RFP or RFQ document, a process that will take months. Added together it means that libraries on the State Library Network are not going to have speeds of 50, or 100, or 150 Mbps tomorrow. But it also means that the day is coming when they will. The Library Commission will keep its collective foot on the accelerator. Each one of you who talked to legislators, local funders, and patrons about this issue were a part of the resolution. Thank you.

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## TRUSTEE TIPS

**Jeanette M. Rowsey, WVLA Trustees Division Chair**

As the Legislative season winds down and the March winds blow, budget season is not far behind.

*"Creating and presenting a library budget is not just a matter of assigning numbers to line items on an Excel spreadsheet and presenting it to a group of officials. Far from it. Library budgeting is an ongoing activity, with many parts and many people involved. It is a cyclical process of listening to the community, working with decision-makers, telling compelling stories about your library – and bringing all these elements together in a budget presentation and then starting all over again."*

The above paragraph introduces a helpful resource I found in the American Library Association's online Advocacy Library. [Taking the Fear Out of Library Budget Presentations](#) contains a wealth of best practices for library boards and directors.

There's a lot to dig into here, and ALA draws upon the wisdom of veteran librarians who have drafted and presented budgets in "good times and tough economic times." Subsections include Laying the Groundwork, Preparing a Budget Presentation, Citizen Support- Rallying Stakeholders, Making the Budget Presentation- Do's & Don'ts, Follow Up, and Budgeting Best Practices.

As you prepare to team up for the annual task of budgeting, consider the outreach opportunities that can be worked into the process. As a supplement to the WV Public Library Trustees Manual, [Taking the Fear Out of Library Budget Presentations](#) will give you lots of food for thought.

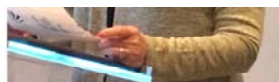
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## Library Commission Announces 2019 Award Winners

The Library Commission has announced the winners of its **2019 Librarian of the Year** and **Library Champion** awards. The awards recognize librarians and library volunteers who have made exceptional contributions to libraries and library life in West Virginia.



**Nancy Moore**, the director of the Five Rivers Public Library in Parsons, WV, is the recipient of the **2019 WVLC Librarian of the Year** award. Nancy has worked at the Five Rivers Library for more than 25 years and was honored for her role in improving the library's computer access capabilities and DVD, audiobook, and magazine collections. Ms. Moore was also cited for her leadership in bringing major library programs, such as the Family Resource Network, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and the WV Read Aloud project, to Tucker County patrons. In addition, she has been instrumental in major renovations made to the library building over the past two



decades.

The WVLC is also honoring supporters of public libraries with its **2019 Library Champions** award, designed to recognize individuals, such as trustees, local officials, volunteers, and patrons, who promoted public libraries in West Virginia in the past year. The 2019 winners of the award are **Betty Dransfield of Monroe County**, **Anne Silbernagel of Kanawha County**, and **The Friends of the Sutton Public Library from Braxton County**.

A recently retired Board of Trustees member of the Monroe County Public Library, **Betty Dransfield** has worked for decades to improve the library experience for patrons in Union. From delivering books to schools in the 1960s to leading the charge for a new library building in the 1980s, Betty Dransfield has long been at the forefront of improving library service in Monroe County.

A third-generation library advocate and current Kanawha County Public Library Board of Trustees member, **Anne Silbernagel** was a leading proponent of restoring library service to Clendenin after its library was destroyed in the devastating floods of 2016. The Clendenin branch reopened in 2018. She is also a founding member of the Friends of the Library Foundation and has been a tireless supporter of library fund-raising campaigns in Kanawha County.

Formed in 2003, the **Friends of the Sutton Public Library** has been an integral part of the library's success for 16 years. Originally, the group served as the main fund-raising organization for a new library building, which opened its doors in 2008. Currently, the group helps manage the library's summer reading program and provides support for other programs through annual fund-raising campaigns.



**Congratulations to this year's winners, and *Special Thanks* to ALL West Virginia librarians and volunteers who make Public Libraries a place where everyone can Explore, Discover, and Create!**

## Library Grant Opportunities

### Continuing Education Micro Grants

The Library Commission is offering **Continuing Education Micro-Grants** for the following conferences:

#### **ARSL 2019 - September 5-7 in Burlington, Vermont**

Deadline for applications: March 15, 2019

Number of micro grants being awarded: 5

#### **Spring Fling - April 4-6 in Morgantown, WV**

Deadline for applications: March 18, 2019

Number of micro grants being awarded: 10

The link to the form is [https://librarycommission.wv.gov/Librarian/Documents/CE\\_Micro\\_Grants%20Fillable%](https://librarycommission.wv.gov/Librarian/Documents/CE_Micro_Grants%20Fillable%20Form.pdf)

[20Form.pdf](#). Please let me know if you have questions.

## 2019 Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant Program Call for Proposals



The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, dedicated to supporting arts and literacy programs in public schools and libraries across the country, is encouraging qualifying educators to apply for a 2019 Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant. Applications are currently being accepted, and the deadline for submissions is **March 31, 2019**.

Approximately 70 grants, up to \$500 each, will be awarded to teachers and librarians whose proposals demonstrate creativity and a desire to make learning fun. Decisions will be emailed to all applicants in May, allowing educators to plan for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

Since 1987, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation has provided over \$1,000,000 in support of EJK Mini-Grant programs spanning the 50 states and U.S commonwealths. The Foundation welcomes Mini-Grant proposals focusing on any subject or discipline. To learn more about EJK Mini-Grants, and to see the criteria for application, visit [Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants](#).



## WVLA Spring Fling is Right Around the Corner



The West Virginia Library Association holds its annual spring conference at the Lakeview Golf Resort & Spa in Morgantown, April 4th and 5th.

To register, visit the [WVLA web site](#).

## Megan Tarbett Receives Young Leader Award



Megan Tarbett, Director of the Putnam County Library, has been awarded the 2018 Generation Putnam Young Leader Award by the Putnam Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes the qualities of leadership and dedication to the goal of making Putnam County a better place to work and live. In addition to her role as library director, Megan also serves as President of the West Virginia Library Association, and volunteers for many community organizations, including the West Virginia Humanities Council, the West Virginia Youth Symphony, the Putnam County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Putnam Area Community Enrichment Foundation.



## Fundraising Goal Exceeded for New Shepherdstown Library

The Shepherdstown Public Library's board of trustees has announced that it has raised more than \$3 million for construction of a new library and resource center, surpassing its \$2.95 million goal.

The library board said it anticipates site work and construction of the new facility will begin in the late summer or early fall of 2019. The facility of more than 10,000 square feet is to be built near the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Shepherdstown. The current library, which is about 2,000 square feet, was opened in 1922 by the Shepherdstown Women's Club.



"This has been a long time coming," Library Director Hali Taylor said, "and we thank our community members for their continued faith in the vision and the patience and commitment they have exhibited during this entire process."

## Ohio County Public Library Focuses on Wheeling History

The Ohio County Public Library is marking the 250th anniversary of Wheeling's founding with a major exhibit - "Wheeling in 250 Objects". The exhibit features memorabilia connected to Wheeling's history...including artifacts related to the indigenous people of the area, historical documents, displays on frontier life, and much more.



Sean Duffy, library programming director and WV Library Commissioner, says many of the objects are on loan from community members and organizations. The library is also contributing a significant amount from its own archives and special collections.

Up to 18 display cases will be used in the exhibit area, which was created last year as part of extensive renovations to the library building. The exhibit is now open and will remain open throughout the year.

## Honor for Retiring Elizabeth Tackett

The Logan County Commission has issued a proclamation honoring Elizabeth Tackett upon her retirement as director of the Buffalo Creek Memorial Library, a position she had held since 2005.

"I've known Elizabeth Tackett for several years in dealing with the libraries," said Commission President Danny Godby. "I found her to be a meek, humble-type person, always energetic, always able to help someone who is in need."

Tackett thanked the commission for their efforts in supporting the libraries throughout the county and for their help in projects such as fixing the parking lot at Buffalo Creek.

As part of the proclamation, Feb. 19, 2019 was declared "Elizabeth Tackett Day" in Logan County. Elizabeth's son, Eddie Tackett, is the new director of the Buffalo Creek Memorial Library.



## Libraries Responding to the Opioid Crisis

An article from WebJunction

Along with the Public Library Association, WebJunction has embarked on a research project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to look at [how public libraries are responding to the opioid crisis with their communities](#).



The project will deliver a series of case studies highlighting public library responses, as well as host cross-sector conversations with non-library organizations, and invite library staff around the country to participate in webinars to hear and share ideas to help libraries respond.

Two members of the project's [steering committee](#), which also includes Library Commission Executive Director Karen Goff, recently shared what has been happening in their libraries through interviews. At the Gates Public Library (NY), assistant director Anna Souannavong perceived a need for discussion and education in her local community on opioid addiction and [took action](#). K.C Williams, director of the Blount County Public Library (TN) has been working to support the county's [Recovery Court program](#) through the library. Read more about the both of these libraries and how they are working with the community, and if you have a story to share, you can reach out to us at [social@webjunction.org](mailto:social@webjunction.org).

## WVLC Notices

- **Fayette County Public Library:** Rebecca Kellum is the new Library Director
- **Buffalo Creek Memorial Library:** Eddie Tackett is the new Library Director
- **St. Albans Branch Library:** Job opening for a Branch Manager
- **Meadow Bridge Branch Library:** Job opening for a Branch Manager

## West Virginia Fiction Competition is Underway

Shepherd University and the West Virginia Library Commission are now accepting short story submissions for the

2019 West Virginia Fiction Competition. The program is a literary competition for writers and storytellers in the state, designed to foster an appreciation of Appalachian culture and values. Any resident of West Virginia or student attending school in the state may submit an original, unpublished work of fiction. The submission may not have received any other award, recognition, or special honor.

A panel of writers, editors and creative writing instructors will choose finalists, and the 2019 Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence, Kentucky writer Crystal Wilkinson, will select winners from the field of finalists. Winners will receive \$500 for First Place, \$100 for Second Place, Third Place, and Judges' Choice awards.

Writers interested in submitting their original works of fiction to the WV Fiction Competition should submit their stories, double-spaced and within the 5000-word maximum limit, to Brenda Feltner, Shepherd University, PO Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. **The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2019.**



JOIN  
and  
ADD  
to the DISCUSSION!

## WVLC Book Discussion GROUP

terrible creation and the havoc it caused has enthralled generations of readers and inspired countless writers of horror and suspense. Considering the novel's enduring success, it is remarkable that it began merely as a whim of Lord Byron's.

"We will each write a story," Byron announced to his next-door neighbors, Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin and her lover Percy Bysshe Shelley. The friends were summering on the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland in 1816, Shelley still unknown as a poet and Byron writing the third canto of *Childe Harold*. When continued rains kept them confined indoors, all agreed to Byron's proposal.

The illustrious poets failed to complete their ghost stories, but Mary Godwin (later Mary Shelley when she married Percy in late 1816) rose supremely to the challenge. With *Frankenstein*, she created a story that, in her own words, "would speak to the mysterious fears of our nature and awaken thrilling horror -- one to make the reader dread to look round, to curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart."

**Contact Library & Development Services to request this book for your book group at 304-558-2041 or at [susan.p.bailey@wv.gov](mailto:susan.p.bailey@wv.gov).**

## Featured Book of the Month!

### **Frankenstein; The Modern Prometheus**

by Mary Shelley

Few creatures of horror have seized readers' imaginations and held them for so long as the anguished monster of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The story of Victor Frankenstein's





## Leap Into Science Workshop in Morgantown

The Morgantown Public Library System will host the LAST educator training for the **Leap Into Science** "Balance" workshop, on Friday March 15, 2019 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at the Morgantown Public Library, 373 Spruce St., Morgantown, WV 26505.



**Leap Into Science** is a nationwide program developed by The Franklin Institute Science Museum that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families. The program empowers educators to offer workshops in community settings like libraries, museums, and out-of-school time programs to engage under-served audiences in accessible and familiar settings.

To register for the Leap Into Science Educator training:

- Sign up at <http://ngcproject.org/event/mpls-balance-training-wv-leap-into-science> by March 11th
- Complete the [Leap Into Science Commitment Form](#)
- Contact [sarah.palfrey@clark.lib.wv.us](mailto:sarah.palfrey@clark.lib.wv.us) by March 11th if you require any accommodations

Lunch is included with the training.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

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

	<p>View Upcoming &amp; Archived Webinars</p> <p><a href="#">CLICK HERE</a></p>
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#### Featured Upcoming Online Classes:

- [The Emerging Future: Technology Issues and Trends](#) - 3/5
- [Library Management for Beginners: Managing from the Middle](#) - 3/12
- [Library Management for Beginners: Managing Personnel](#) - 3/21
- [Online Instructional Design for Librarians](#) - 3/27



#### Highlighted Content from WebJunction

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

- [Gates Public Library Community Panel Prompts Grassroots Opioid Overdose Programming](#): Read how Anna Souannavong, Assistant Director of the Gates Public Library in Rochester, New York, responded to a community need for discussion and education on opioid addiction and the widespread crisis happening across the region and throughout the nation.
- [WebJunction at ALA Midwinter in Seattle](#): ALA Midwinter 2019 was held in Seattle in January, and WebJunction staff was there, hosting sessions to share what we've been working on. Staff also presented two sessions at the Symposium on the Future of Libraries. We've compiled the video recordings, notes and slides from these presentations for anyone who wasn't able to attend, or wants to learn more.

#### Upcoming Webinars

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

#### **Supercharge Your Storytime Assessment: Using Data to Tell Your Story**

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 ♦ 3:00 pm ♦ 1 hour

[Register here.](#)

We know that Supercharged Storytimes DO make a difference in building early literacy skills and giving children an early start on reading readiness. But do the administrators and decision makers in your library community know this? It's critical to keep telling the story of your impact and advocating for the value of storytimes for early learning, and having data to back it up will reinforce your message. In this webinar, you'll hear from practitioners who have overcome their hesitancy around storytime assessment and have discovered the power of data to tell their library story. Get answers to how the Project Outcome early learning assessment tools can make data collection and reporting easy. With feedback from your storytime families, you can improve your services and gather stories that give life to the impact you and your library are having.

Presented by: Presented by: **Liesl Jacobson**, Children's Services Coordinator, Salt Lake City Public Library; and **Emily Plagman**, Project Manager, Project Outcome, Public Library Association

### Strategic Planning in a Deeply Weird World: The Flexible Roadmap Field Guide Approach

Tuesday, March 26, 2019 ♦ 3:00 pm ♦ 1 hour

[Register here.](#)

It's a big task to define the library's future over the next three or five years, and strategic planning is becoming less and less effective in a rapidly changing world. The Salt Lake City Public Library (SLCPL) has created a new approach that is flexible, staff-driven, and human-centered. SCLPL's Strategic Roadmap is not a 100-page plan in a binder-on-a-shelf; it's an experiential learning tool that invites all staff to participate in the co-creation of meaningful outcomes and experiences for the community. The Roadmap focuses less on planning and more on building capacity of staff to adopt a human-centered service design mindset and skillset.

SLCPL staff are adopting a new perspective, continually experimenting with and adapting spaces, collections, services, programs, and their own roles, to responsively address community needs and aspirations in an ever-changing landscape. Join us for this webinar to learn how to cultivate new skills to help bring the Roadmap to life for your library's strategic planning.

Presented by: **Peter Bromberg**, Executive Director, and **Marilee Moon**, Assistant Director of Customer Experience, at [Salt Lake City Public Library](#)

Events · WebJunction Events Calendar

## WebJunction Events Calendar

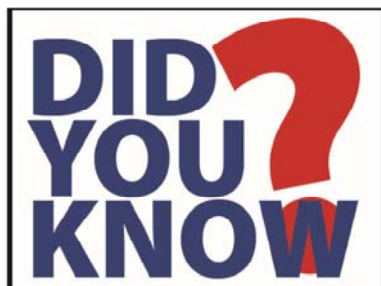
To view a complete list of past WebJunction webinars, go to: [WebJunction Event Archives](#)



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 »



The earliest library in Welch was established by the McDowell Women's Club in 1936 - with a total of 36 books. A new library was constructed in 1955, but this building, along with the Welch City Hall and fire station, was destroyed in a devastating fire in the summer of 1979. Ground was broken on a new facility in 1981, and the new McDowell County library opened for business in July of 1982. Today, the McDowell County Public Library operates 3 branches in

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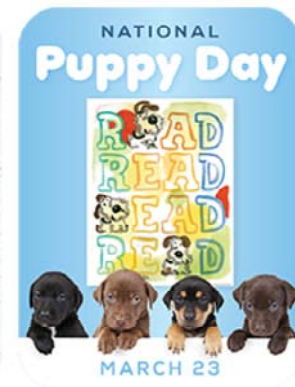
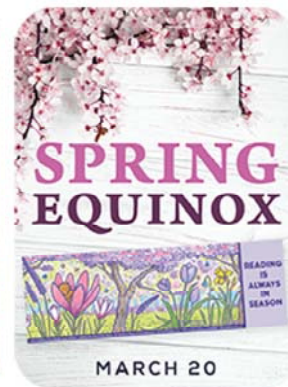
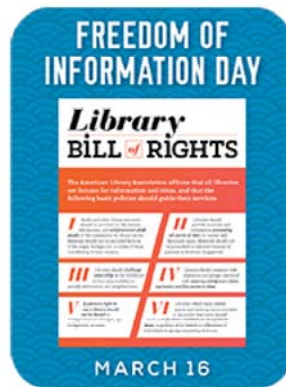
Bradshaw, Iaeger and Northfork, and serves over 21,000 residents in McDowell County.

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## Mark Your Calendar!



- March:** Women's History Month  
**March 2:** Read Across America Day  
**March 3-9:** Teen Tech Week  
**March 8:** International Women's Day  
**March 16:** Freedom of Information Day  
**March 20:** 1st Day of Spring/Spring Equinox  
**March 22:** National West Virginia Day  
**March 23:** National Puppy Day
- 



**You're the Super Star!**

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

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**Karen E. Goff**

*Executive Secretary*

*West Virginia Library Commission*

**West Virginia Library Commission**

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