

## West Virginia Reads 150

Join the West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC), the West Virginia Center for the Book and libraries across the state in West Virginia Reads 150, a reading challenge that celebrates West Virginia's 150th birthday in 2013.

The year-long reading initiative encourages West Virginians to read 150 books during the course of 2013, West Virginia's sesquicentennial year. The books can be in any format (printed book, e-book, downloadable text, etc.) and from any source. Books can be on any topic, fiction or non-fiction.

People can read 150 books individually, or they can join teams to read 150 books collectively. Libraries across West Virginia are encouraged to form teams to compete. Teams, which can have up to 15 members, must choose a name and select a leader to keep track of the books read by team members.

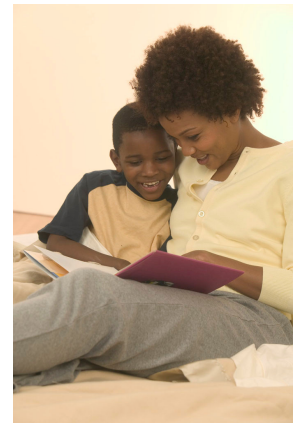
All ages and groups can participate – book clubs, friends, seniors, coworkers, classmates, etc. If children are too young to read on their own, kids can have their parents read to them. Families can apply their Summer Reading Program credits toward their West Virginia Reads 150 tally.

WVLC is providing libraries with West Virginia Reads 150 artwork, window clings, reader's advisories, the Good Reads website ([www.goodreads.com/group/show/84991-wv-reads-150](http://www.goodreads.com/group/show/84991-wv-reads-150)), social media support and program ideas. Libraries are free to customize West Virginia Reads 150 for their own needs. Prizes, certificates, etc. will be up to participating libraries and sponsoring organizations.

The program is not limited to public libraries – bookstores, school and academic libraries, literacy organizations, youth services providers and more are encouraged to participate in West Virginia Reads 150.

## Celebrating West Virginia Women Writers

The West Virginia Center for the Book will celebrate four West Virginia women writers at the American Women Writers National Museum in Washington, DC, on January 29, 2013. The national event will honor poets, novelists, and songwriters from West Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming. The celebrated West Virginians are Irene McKinney, former West Virginia Poet Laureate; Pearl S. Buck, Nobel laureate; Denise Giardina, winner of the W. D. Weatherford Award, among others; and Hazel Dickens, noted bluegrass singer and songwriter.



A poster of the four West Virginians and others will be on display at the museum throughout January; the West Virginia Center for the Book developed the poster to promote women authors in our state and books in general. (*Copies of the poster will be distributed to West Virginia public libraries in the coming weeks.*) Postcards and bookmarks featuring Marilyn Sue Shank's young adult novel, "Child of the Mountains," will be displayed with the poster.



The American Women Writers National Museum is based at the National Press Club, Washington, DC. Visit its website for more information: [www.americanwomenwritersnationalmuseum.org](http://www.americanwomenwritersnationalmuseum.org).

The West Virginia Center for the Book is an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. WVLC hosts the center in partnership with the West Virginia Humanities Council. The West Virginia Center for the Book brings the national center's message of the importance of books and reading to audiences statewide. The center highlights our unique literary heritage, from pioneer storytellers to modern novelists. In addition, the center sponsors book festivals, author readings and other events that celebrate books and libraries. Visit [www.librarycommission.wv.gov](http://www.librarycommission.wv.gov) for more information.

Funding for this project is provided by the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the West Virginia Library Commission.

## WV Represented at National Library Building Conference

West Virginia was well represented at the recent Design Institute 2013, held at the new Warrensville Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library near Cleveland, Ohio on December 14. Raleigh County Public Library Director Amy Lilly and West Virginia Library Commission's Library Development Director John Paul Myrick attended. Design Institute is sponsored by *Library Journal* and participating architects, engineers and other design professionals.

Attendees learned about the most recent design trends in public library construction and innovations in library furnishings. They worked collaboratively in design charrettes with architects, engineers, LEED (energy efficient) construction specialists and others.

Seminar participants envisioned the 21st century library as it moves from a warehouse of material to a place that enables content creation for every age and flexible spaces for collaboration, contemplation and education. Participants also tackled obtaining funds and managing the budget, reducing energy costs and incorporating the best environmental practices.

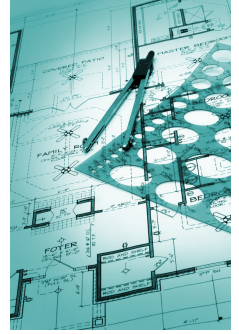
Raleigh County's Shady Spring Branch Library was the subject of a design challenge; participants figured out appropriate ways to enlarge the facility incorporating new service trends and new service needs. Raleigh County plans several building projects in the future, as do many other libraries in West Virginia.



RCPL Library Director Amy Lilly working with architects and others on planning for a renovation/addition to the Shady Spring Branch Library.

## WVLC Offers Space Needs Assessments

Just how much space does your library need to appropriately serve its community? How much will it need in the future? A space needs assessment answers these questions and is one of the vital parts of the library planning process. Such a study is critical before considering any new construction or renovation of an existing library facility. WVLC's staff consultants can complete a space needs assessment for your library; they can also provide you with a document that outlines your initial steps in the planning process. If you would like to have a space needs assessment completed on your library, [contact John Paul Myrick, Library Development Director](#) at WVLC.



## Piedmont Library Wins National Recognition, Again

The Piedmont Public Library in Mineral County has again made *Library Journal's* list of Star Libraries. Piedmont has been on the prestigious Star Library list every year since the inception of the list five years ago. Piedmont received 5 stars in 2012, the second time the library has achieved the highest level. We congratulate Paula Boggs, her staff and the community of Piedmont!

The Star Libraries list is a national public library ranking system based on *Library Journal's* national Index of Public Library Service. The list gives the highest scoring public libraries 3, 4 and 5 stars. *Library Journal* Index scores are based on four per capita service output statistics: library visits, circulation, program attendance and public Internet computer use.



A young Piedmont patron on Snapshot Day 2010

## Ad Campaign to Bring Visitors to Library Doors

An advertising campaign for a WorkForce West Virginia/WVLC project will bring patrons to library doors in search of job preparedness information. WVLC recently partnered with the Workforce Investment Board Region 2 (Cabell, Mingo, Putnam, Lincoln, Wayne, Boone and Logan counties) to provide job and career readiness software for Workforce clients in the region.

An advertising campaign highlighting the service recommends that anyone needing job and career training or information should also visit his or her local library in Cabell, Mingo, Putnam, Lincoln, Wayne, Boone and Logan counties, where the software will also be available. The Job and Career Accelerator database provides ample training opportunities, guidance on resume writing and interview preparation; it also lets people search for employment. If you need a refresher course on Job and Career Accelerator to help your patrons, [please contact Susan Hayden](#) of the WVLC staff.

Screenshot of the Job &amp; Career Accelerator software interface. The interface features a navigation menu with options: 'Returning User Login' (with fields for Username and Password), 'New User Registration' (with a 'Register' button), 'EXPLORE CAREERS' (with a sub-menu: 'ASSESS: Work-related interests and suitable careers', 'EXPLORE: Over 1,000 detailed occupation profiles', 'FIND: Jobs and internships from over 5 million listings', 'PREPARE: Professional resumes and cover letters', 'GET HIRED: Manage earnings and track the hiring process'), and 'SEARCH JOBS'. A central graphic shows a hand pointing to a circular flow diagram with 'GET HIRED' in the center, surrounded by 'EXPLORE CAREERS', 'CREATE RESUMES', and 'SEARCH JOBS'. At the bottom, there is a banner: 'Helping Job Seekers Get Hired, Every Step of the Way' and 'The Fast Track to Getting Hired!'.

## Award Honors Community Engagement

The **LibraryAware Community Award** recognizes libraries that improve their communities and increase understanding of how libraries contribute to a community's well-being. The winning library will receive \$10,000. Visit [lj.libraryjournal.com](http://lj.libraryjournal.com) for submission guidelines. February 1 is the deadline.

## Apply for StoryCorps @ Your Library

The American Library Association Public Programs Office, in partnership with StoryCorps, is accepting applications from public libraries and library systems interested in hosting **StoryCorps @ your library** programs. The program brings StoryCorps' interview methods to libraries while developing a replicable model of oral history programming. Program guidelines and the online application are available at [www.programminglibrarian.org/storycorps](http://www.programminglibrarian.org/storycorps). The deadline for applications is January 18.

## Is Someone Tracking Your Reading Habits?

The Electronic Frontier Foundation offers an article called, "Who's Tracking Your Reading Habits? An E-Book Buyer's Guide to Privacy, 2012 Edition." Visit <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2012/11/e-reader-privacy-chart-2012-update> for more information. (This article was suggested by Brian E. Raitz of the Parkersburg & Wood County Public Library.)

### **Library Lookout**

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