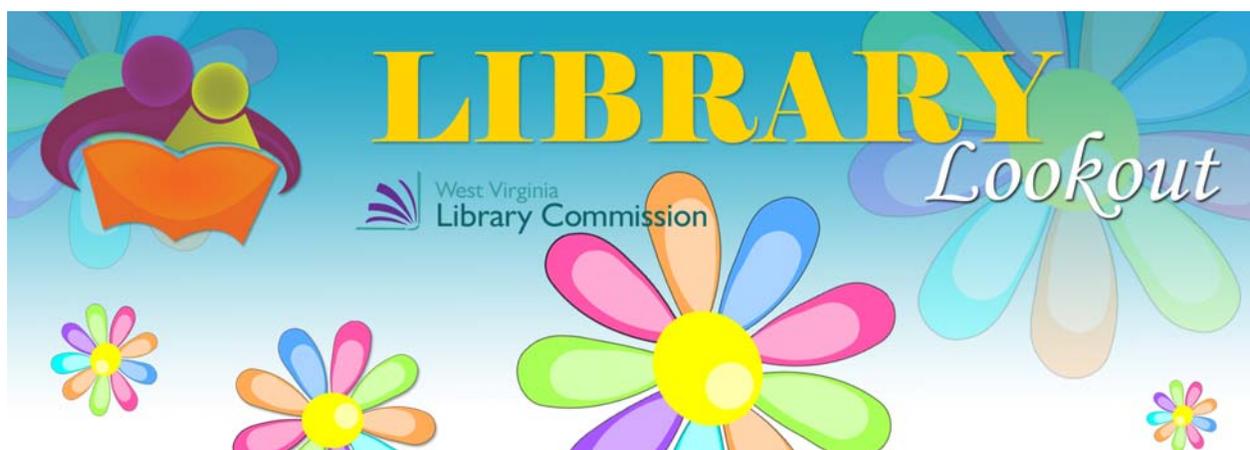


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West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC) Monthly Newsletter

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Issue 71

May 2017

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*a message from...*

the West Virginia Library Commission

## From the Secretary

May 2017

Congratulations to WVLA Public Library Division Chair Sarah Mitchell, Children's Roundtable Chair Breana Bowen, and everyone who helped make the West Virginia Library Association's Spring Fling a great event. The session topics were interesting, the presenters prepared, the attendees involved, and the weather...interesting. I'm sure snow and tricky travel were not part of the plan. It was good to see so many of you there.

I, like all of you, remain anxious about the state budget. According to news reports, since vetoing the budget passed by Legislature, the Governor and his staff are meeting with Legislative leaders on a compromise. The version that was passed included the current level of funding for Grants-in-Aid and Service Center grants but cut Library Commission personnel funds-again. There is no way of knowing how, or if, this will change in the next version. I will inform all

public library Directors and Board Presidents as information becomes available.

Meanwhile, please be patient with Library Commission staff as we explore ways of delivering services with fewer people. A few months ago the Library Commission had 42 employees; a few years ago 48. Today, we have 38. Asking for your cooperation in consistent use of the Network Services' HelpDesk is one way we are seeking to preserve the efficiency of the already extremely responsive Network Services crew. That crew is currently down one Field Tech (Cabell), looking regretfully toward the retirement of Fred Vickers, and preparing for a medical leave for another. The HelpDesk protocol not only promotes efficiency, it provides proof of the workload and response. The State hiring freeze is not showing any signs of melting.

By the time this issue is distributed I will have attended the American Library Association's National Library Legislation Day in Washington with a group of your colleagues. Bonnie Dwire of the Morgantown Public Library is doing a great job as WVLA Federal Relations Coordinator, arranging visits to the Congressional offices, and keeping us all organized. Full funding for critical Federal library programs is at the top of everyone's list. A close second is the importance of high speed broadband and the E-rate program. I look forward to talking to our members of Congress and Senator about the services you all are providing in your communities. At least one of the briefing day presentations promises to be as interesting as the visits. It is titled "Democracy Dies in Darkness" and is based on the new motto of the *Washington Post* "An informed citizenry is necessary for democracy to thrive".

**Karen Goff**

*WVLC Executive Secretary*

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## TRUSTEE TIPS

### What's Your Plan?

One of the requirements for receiving state aid is a development plan for a period of at least 3 and no more than 5 years. Much time could be spent discussing the difference between strategic plans and long range plans but that is a topic for a different time.

The Library Commission's rationale for this requirement is to provide the impetus for library boards, directors, staff, and ideally community members to develop a roadmap for the library. The plan assists the library board and director make decisions for the community it serves. It also publicizes the library's priorities and its vision of the future.

Planning involves looking at what is possible and considering a wide range of alternatives. Open-mindedness and creativity help to develop a plan that will direct the most effective use of library resources. Board members should keep in mind the present and future needs of the entire community served by the library. Obtaining input from members of the public, as well as from the director and staff, is critical.

This past December WebJunction presented **Engaged Planning: Ask What You Can Do for Your Rural Community** in collaboration with the Association of Rural and Small Libraries. The webinar was recorded and the recording, slides, and related resources are all available at <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/engaged-planning.html>.

If your library's development plan is due in 2017 or 2018, this webinar can help you understand the important steps of an engaged planning process. If you are thinking that your library is too small for a planning process, it is important to note that the webinar was presented by Cindy Fesemyer, the director of a library in Wisconsin that has a service

population of 5,000.

Planning is not just a requirement to be met. It is an opportunity to transform your library and your community.

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## Learn More



Building connections with Trustees is the key at board meetings and the foundation for a thriving library system. I attended an insightful training that Ann Farr presented at Richwood PL regarding the minimum a Trustees packet should contain for each meeting (Agenda, Minutes, Budget versus Actual, Check Register, Balance sheet/account balances, Directors report and any other pertinent correspondence) along with guidance on the financials.

The most challenging aspect of the job seems to be the financial reports. The FY 2018 WVLC requirement to segregate State funds and the expenditure of those funds add another level to that challenge. However, we have support for that. If you missed it at Spring Fling, we've posted Cabell Co. PL business manager, Kristy Browning's [Tracking GIA Funding Using QuickBooks](#) presentation on our website. You may reach her at 304-528-5700, ext. 133 or [kristy.browning@cabell.lib.wv.gov](mailto:kristy.browning@cabell.lib.wv.gov). TechSoup's how-to Webinar is titled [QuickBooks for existing Nonprofit Users](#). Both are very useful resources depending on your familiarity with the program.



Should you have questions, feel free to call me at 304-558-2041 or [melissa.j.brown@wv.gov](mailto:melissa.j.brown@wv.gov). We'll work through this together; a program like Quickbooks makes the task so much easier!

### Melissa Brown

WVLC Continuing Education Consultant

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## WVLA's Spring Fling in Summersville



Librarians braved some challenging weather at this year's WVLA Spring Fling in Summersville. Despite an un-spring like snowfall, this year's conference was a great success with more than 32 sessions over the two day event.

If you missed any of the WVLC presentations, you can find them on our web site under [Continuing Education](#).

By the way, don't forget to to mark your calendar for the annual **WVLA Fall Conference, November 8-10**, at **The Greenbrier** in White Sulphur Springs.





## 24th *Letters About Literature* Contest to Announce Winners

The West Virginia Center for the Book will hold the 2017 *Letters About Literature* awards ceremony at the West Virginia Culture Center on **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**. *Letters About Literature* is a national reading and writing program, supported locally by the WV Center for the Book at the West Virginia Library Commission.

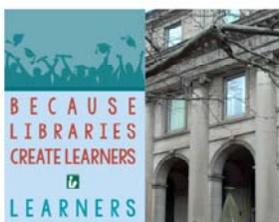
This year, 723 students from West Virginia were among the more than 47,000 students nationwide who wrote *Letters About Literature*. National screeners selected 114 of the West Virginia entries for state level judging. Judges, chosen by the West Virginia Center for the Book, determined the top letters in each competition level for the state. Entries for state level judging were selected on how well they met the required criteria of: audience, purpose, grammatical conventions, and originality.

WVLC Executive Secretary Karen Goff says, “The *Letters About Literature* competition allows the most gifted students in the state to showcase their skills. WVLC is proud to support this program, which creates a forum for students to excel in both reading and writing.”

Contact [Robert Gibson](#) for more information.



## New Poster is on the Way!



The latest WVLC Library poster is complete and will be heading your way this month.

It features two of our most important messages:



1. Libraries Create Learners
2. Learners Transform Communities.

Kudos to WVLC Graphic Artist Jimmy White on a job well done!



## Stories From The ALA

### The Sky is the Limit for One Library

It is no coincidence that the Missoula Public Library recently received overwhelming voter approval for a \$30 million referendum for a new library; library patrons are well acquainted with the many ways the library reaches out to the community. The new library will triple its circulation from 200,000 items to around 600,000. Given its transformative nature, the library has adopted the Libraries Transform campaign.

The Libraries Transform Because statements played a part in the library's push for a new building – one Because statement informed the public "Because 1 in 4 Missoulians doesn't have access to a utility called the Internet." The new library will triple its capacity for Internet connectivity and computer use.

[READ MORE](#)

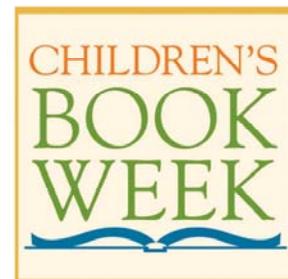


## Children's Book Week

The 98th anniversary of Children's Book Week takes place May 1-7. Established in 1919, Children's Book Week is the longest-running national literacy initiative in the country. Every year, events are held nationwide at schools, libraries, bookstores, homes — wherever young readers and books connect!

2017 Children's Book Week Highlights:

- [Official poster](#), with activities, illustrated by award-winner [Christian Robinson](#) and inspired by the 2017 slogan, "One World, Many Stories."
- [Exclusive new bookmarks](#) by four prominent children's book illustrators.
- Special [awards announcement](#) in conjunction with the ABC Children's Group/ABFE art auction on **May 31** at BookExpo.
- The Anna Dewdney Read Together Award, a picture book prize in honor of the late author and illustrator.
- Everyone's participation will be counted towards a [national book donation campaign to children in need](#).
- Downloadable event and [voting kits](#), [press release templates](#), and more [Media Tools](#).



## WVLC Notices

- **May 18th - 2017 Letters About Literature Ceremony:** 2:00 - 4:00 pm, Culture Center, Charleston.
- **May 29th - Memorial Day:** WVLC is closed.
- **Summersville Public Library:** Cynthia Hagen is the new Director
- **Gilmer County Public Library:** Patrick Montgomery named Interim Director



### Check Out the Latest Edition of *Libraries Today!*



Be sure to take a peek behind the curtain and catch a glimpse of life in the WLVC in the April Edition of *Libraries Today*. The show visits two WVLC Departments - Special Services and State Library Services. Guests Jasmyne Lewis-Combs, Jon Barker, Heather Campbell-Shock, and Lisa Hechesky give you a guided tour of the state library and the commission's library services for the Blind and Visually and Physically Handicapped.

The May edition of *Libraries Today* is also available! Join us as we spend time with the West Virginia Library Association. Guest librarians Suzie Martin, Sarah Mitchell, Megan Tarbett, and Association President Gretchen Beach explain the role of the WVLA in promoting and supporting libraries across the state.

You can now watch both of these shows and all upcoming editions of *Libraries Today* on the brand new **Library Television Network's YouTube Channel!** The new channel launched in April and you can catch up on *Libraries Today*, plus the network's other shows on the [WVLC YouTube Channel](#). **Check it out today!**



## WVLC Book

### Featured Book of the Month!



JOIN  
and  
ADD  
to the DISCUSSION!

## Discussion GROUP

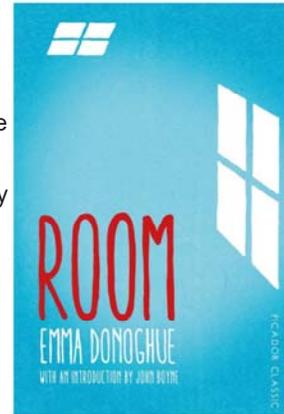
### Room

by Emma Donoghue

*Room* is the story of a five-year-old called Jack, who lives in a single room with his Mom and has never been outside. When he turns five, he starts to ask

questions, and his mother reveals to him that there is a world beyond the walls. Told entirely in Jack's voice, *Room* is no horror story or tearjerker, but a celebration of resilience and the love between parent and child.

*Room* won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize (for best Canadian novel), the Commonwealth Prize (Canada & Caribbean Region), the Canadian Booksellers' Association Libris Awards (Fiction Book and Author of the Year), the Forest of Reading Evergreen Award, the W. H. Smith Paperback of the Year Award and the University of Canberra Book of the Year. The American Library Association gave it an Alex Award (for an adult book with special appeal to readers 12-18) and the Indie Choice Award for Adult Fiction.



Contact Library Development Services to request this book for your book group! 304-558-3978 or [Robert.L.Gibson@wv.gov](mailto:Robert.L.Gibson@wv.gov).

## Project Outcome Launches New Website

Project Outcome unveils its new, improved website on May 1st. The launch is based on users's feedback, and contains improved survey and reporting tools plus easier to use report-building features. The new system will include:

- More customized survey design, including adding program names, logos, helper text and more
- Easy survey creation, copying, editing, data entry and management
- The ability to view real-time results
- Build custom reports at any time
- Add up to three additional questions to the standardized surveys



Visit the [Project Outcome website](#) for more details.



### Don't Forget!

**Fiscal Year 2018 GIA forms** will soon be due. Affiliates should have their forms completed and sent to their Service Center by **May 12, 2017**. All forms are due to the WVLC by **June 1, 2017**. All necessary forms are available on the WVLC website. [Click here](#) to get started.

**Effective July 1, 2017**, all libraries will have to keep separate accounting records for all funds received from the Library Commission. Kristy Browning, Business Manager at the

Cabell County Public Library, presented an excellent session on how to do this in Quick Books at Spring Fling. Her slides are available at on the [Services for Libraries page](#) on the WVLC website - under Continuing Education; 2017 Spring Fling Presentations.

**Alert!**

Building Needs Survey - HB 2792, passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor requires the Library Commission to complete a survey on the current status and needs of all public library facilities by the end of November. The Commission hopes to administer that survey in September.

# CONTINUING EDUCATION

[Click Here to Read More About the West Virginia Yearly Requirements for Directors & Staff](#)

	<p>View Upcoming &amp; Archived Webinars</p> <p><a href="#">CLICK HERE</a></p> 
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	<p>View Upcoming Webinars &amp; Training</p> <p><a href="#">CLICK HERE</a></p> 
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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 West Virginia Library Commission offers access to **Skillsoft** through its partnership with [WebJunction](#). This learning management system provides access to online self-paced courses and instructional videos. There are hundreds of available resources on topics that range from using Microsoft Office and Windows to leadership essentials to creating budgets.

Haven't tried it yet? Get started by....

## Requesting an Account

1. Go to <http://webjunction.skillport.com/>.
2. Click on the **Register** link near the bottom of the page.
3. Complete all fields of the registration form, making sure to select your state library as your sponsor.
4. Affirm and submit the registration form. You will receive an email acknowledging your request.
5. Within two business days, your account will be reviewed and when it is approved, you will receive an email notification.
6. Once approved, you can log in and start learning!

## Using SkillPort

- After logging in, you will be on the home page. To find learning opportunities, click on The Library link at the top of the screen to browse the courses, videos and job aids.
- You can also use the Search function at the top of the page to search all of the available content.
- A course, video or job aid can be launched directly from Search or the Catalog listings, or you can add it to your Learning Plan to come back to later. The Learning Plan allows you to create a personal learning plan of the courses you wish to take.
- Once you begin using the courses, you can print certificates of completion and reports of your learning history in the Learning Transcript section. Here you will see both courses you have launched and are still working on, as well as courses you have completed.

## Happy Learning!

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## Highlighted content from WebJunction

- The free course, [Readers' Advisory Services](#), has been updated with a fresh look and new resources in the WebJunction Course Catalog. The course, originally developed by LibraryU, provides an introduction to public library readers' advisory services to adults and includes the readers' advisory interview, marketing readers' advisory services, promoting fiction, and finding aids. Create your free account today and explore this and more than 40 other self-paced courses in the catalog.
- [Boston Public Library's CommuniQuilt Program](#): This programming idea can bring together patrons of all ages to design and create a quilt that reflects the spirit of your community. The article includes information about recommended supplies and partners, as well promotional ideas.

## Upcoming Webinars

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

### **Beyond the Welcome Sign: Tailoring Immigrant Services for Success**

Thursday, May 11, 2017 ♦ 3:00 pm ♦ 1 hour

Registration: <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/tailoring-immigrant-services.html>

There is much more to supporting immigrants and refugees than hanging out a "welcome" sign at your library. Successful programs and services are specifically tailored to meet the needs of the range of populations who may come through your doors. Hear from Movers & Shakers who work with communities to empower vulnerable and often underserved populations with a sense of belonging and self-reliance. Learn innovative approaches to identifying and

celebrating immigrant leaders; how to foster networking between native-born and newcomer populations and between immigrant groups of varying national origins; how to highlight immigrant-positive narratives; and more. You'll be sure to find practical ideas among the multi-pronged strategies that these librarians have used to ensure that new immigrants really do feel welcomed by the library and the community.

This webinar is part of a series highlighting the work of recent LJ Movers & Shakers and is hosted in collaboration with [Library Journal](#).

Presented by: **Will Chan**, Program Administrator, New Americans Project, Denver Public Library and 2016 Mover & Shaker; and **Sophie Maier**, Immigrant Services Librarian, Louisville Free Public Library, and 2017 Mover & Shaker.

### **Measures that Matter: A View into the Current Public Library Data Landscape**

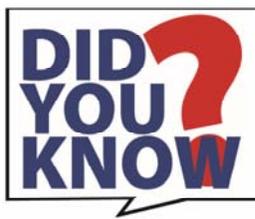
Thursday, May 23, 2017 ♦ 3:00 pm ♦ 1 hour

Registration: <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/measures-that-matter-1.html>

Data gathering and responding to surveys are part of every public librarian's routine. Yet we rarely pause to reflect on these efforts and consider what data matters most. What measures best demonstrate the role, value, and impact of public libraries in the 21st century? How can the various surveys and tools commonly used by public libraries be leveraged with each other and other data sources to best demonstrate that impact? The Institute of Museum and Library Services in cooperation with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies is launching the "Measures that Matter" initiative, a field-wide discussion of the current state of public library data. The initiative will first take stock of the current landscape and then re-envision how data could be collected, stored, used and disseminated more productively in the future.

In this webinar, the first in a 3-part series, we'll discuss the view that emerged from looking at a number of major library surveys and data collection tools, and consider opportunities to pursue a national action plan to move the field toward ever-more meaningful measures.

Presented by: **Stacey Aldrich**, Hawaii State Public Library System; **Vailey Oehlke**, Multnomah County Library (OR); **Linda Hofschire**, Colorado State Library.



Marion County can trace its public library to the early 1890's, when the Women's Christian Temperance Union established a library in Fairmont. Economic difficulties closed the facility twice in the 1920's, but public dollars resurrected the library in the following decade, and it moved to its current site in the city's old Post Office building in 1942. The Marion County Public Library along with branches in Fairview and Mannington now serves nearly 57,000 residents.

## **Mark Your Calendar!**



**May:** Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

**May 1-2:** National Library Legislative Day

**May 1-7:** Children's Book Week

**May 1-7:** Choose Privacy Week

**May 4:** Star Wars Day

**May 7: National Beverage 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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*Library Lookout is published monthly by WVLC Library Administration Services.  
 WVLC is an agency of the Office of the Secretary of Education and the Arts.*

**Karen E. Goff**

*Executive Secretary*

*West Virginia Library Commission*

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