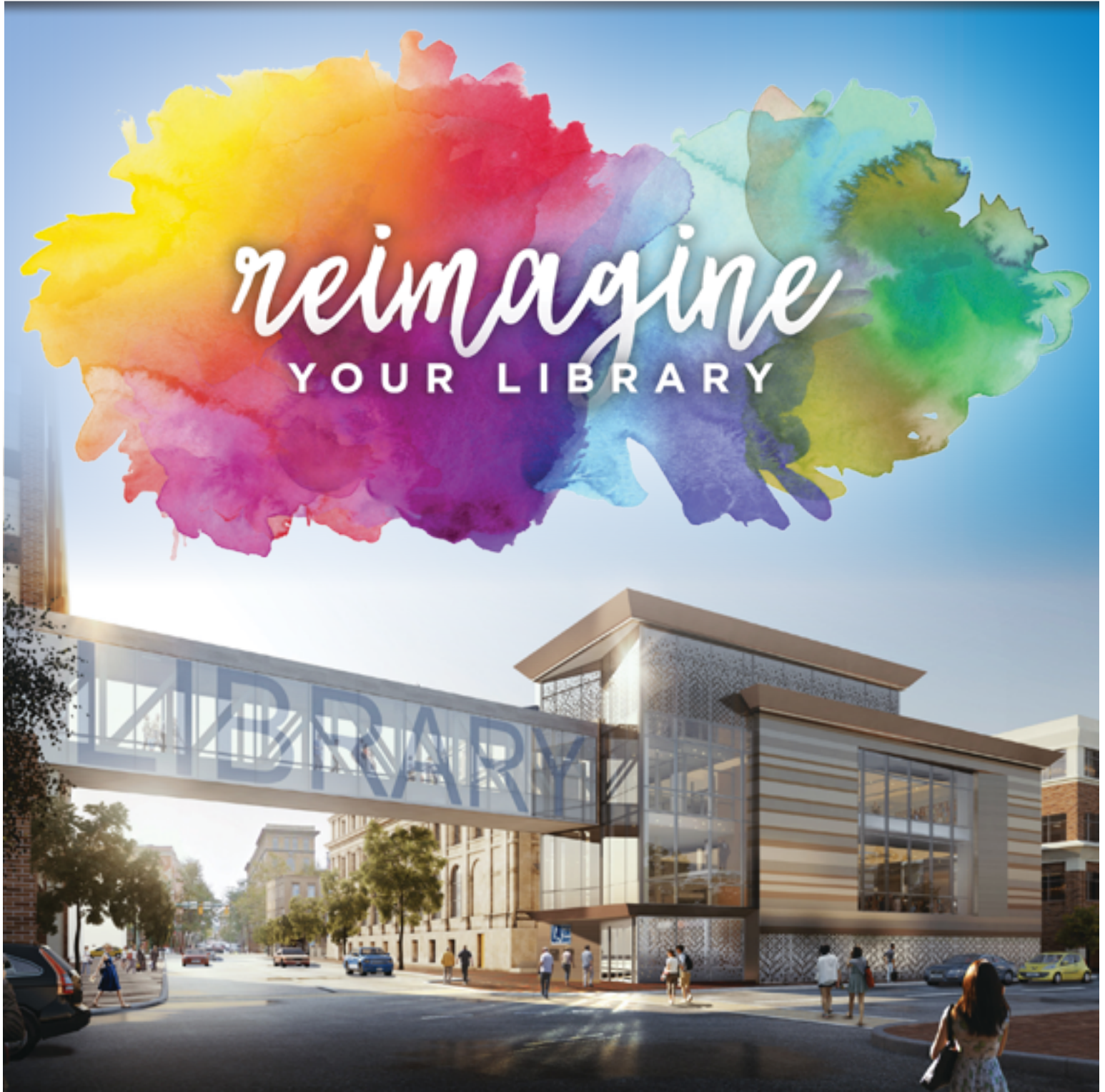




2018 - 2019 Annual Report



www.kanawhalibrary.org

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Clendenin.....Tammy Parker

Cross LanesBrittany Rothausen

DunbarBen Ball

Elk Valley.....Ellie Teaford

GlasgowMelissa Burchett

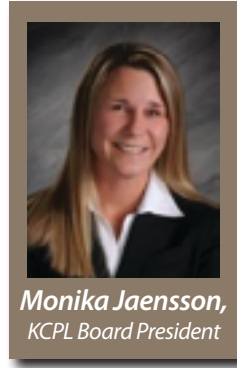
Marmet.....Melissa Burchett

Riverside & BookmobileMelissa Burchett

Sissonville.....Michelle Ross

St. AlbansLora Ward (Acting Manager)

Reimagine Your Library



*Monika Jaensson,
KCPL Board President*

What an exciting time for the Kanawha County Public Library! Our library community has expanded under the leadership of our new library director, Riti Grover, and through the dedication of our staff, whose passion for life-long learning and compassion for people breathes life into the library every day.

Allow me to take a moment to touch upon some of the highlights from this past year. In September of 2018, we welcomed Ms. Grover, to the KCPL family. She brings an upbeat attitude, refreshing outlook, and an outstanding work ethic to our library system. Moreover, under Riti's leadership, we have enhanced community collaborations, allowing us to broaden the reach and exposure of KCPL.

Inspired by this expanding emphasis on community collaborations, KCPL teamed up with the Elk River Backpack Blessings (ERBPB) in 2019. This non-profit group provides food to elementary students by providing a backpack of nutritious, kid-friendly food at the end of each school week and during long school breaks. This summer, the library system and ERBPB provided "Snack Packs" to local children and families at all Kanawha County Public Library locations and the Nitro Public Library.

In March of 2019, KCPL made free mobile Wi-Fi hotspots available to library patrons. Hotspots provide internet connectivity to those who lack reliable online access. In addition, we expanded our digital services to include the video stream service Kanopy, which offers over 30,000 documentaries and feature films.

We were also delighted to collaborate with the Ronald McDonald House Charities in Charleston, offering our first Pop-up Library service to families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The Pop-up Library is a digital device which allows families without a KCPL library card to download free e-books to their personal mobile devices. It is an invaluable resource for families in a time of chaos and uncertainty, providing some "normalcy" through books and reading.

Another crucial part of KCPL's mission is providing educational, recreational, and cultural experiences to our patrons. This year at our Cross Lanes Branch Library, we were delighted to host a Foster Parent Meet and Play, allowing foster parents to take a break, socialize, and support one another. In addition, we welcomed the Chick-Fil-A cow to several of our locations. The mascot read stories, taught dances, and offered prizes to KCPL library card holders.

Our adult patrons have responded positively to our expanding program offerings, including Fired Ink Art and Golden Years. And patrons of all ages loved our Harry Potter Book Night as libraries across the system provided an array of Hogwarts related activities.

This year during FestivALL we offered a belly dancing performance by the Samadhi Tribal Fusion Dance Troupe. This Charleston-based dance troupe celebrates the acceptance of all body types, ages, and backgrounds and excites audiences with its mix of choreographed and improvisational pieces. We were pleased to offer this unique programming at several locations throughout the system.

On a note of hope and growth, we were delighted to celebrate the first anniversary of the reopening of the Clendenin Branch Library, which was closed for nearly two years due to the devastating floods of 2016. Since its 2018 return, the Clendenin Branch Library has resumed its role as the hub of the community by offering programming for all patrons, providing outreach to schools and day cares, and offering a safe space in the community for social gathering as well as quiet solitude.

The West Virginia Book Festival is a mainstay of KCPL. It is a free event offering author presentations, writing workshops, children's activities, the annual KCPL Used Book Sale, and a bustling literary marketplace. Last year our headliners included popular authors Debbie Macomber, David Grann, Dennis Lehane, John Scalzi, and Kwame Alexander. This year, we are excited to welcome best-selling author James Patterson, along with Salina Yoon, Orson Scott Card, Anthony Harkins, Meredith McCarroll, and a host of local and regional authors. Denise Kiernan will be the keynote speaker for the McCreight Lecture in the Humanities series.

The Library continues to raise funds for our major building renovation project at our downtown Charleston facility. Thanks to the generosity of numerous private donors and organizations, we look to begin construction in the near future. This renovation will create an exciting and fresh new space to serve as the community's gathering place.

It has been a year of extensive growth for our system; looking forward, we can see the endless potential for libraries in our communities – wisely harnessing that potential will be our common challenge.

2018-2019 Highlights:

Clendenin

Commemorated one year of being open after the flood of 2016 with a public celebration attended by patrons, library staff and local officials. The Clendenin Library Advisory Board served refreshments and presented a plaque to a 26-year volunteer. Library use and checkouts increased steadily. In October, the library participated in a collaborative program with Parents as Teachers for a Trunk or Treat, with local businesses and groups present. Families with young children met doctors, teachers, first responders and the librarian, as well as other business leaders in the community. Increased programs for various ages: monthly programs were held for adults and two family programs were started, *Homeschool Day* and *Family Dinner Book Group*. Staff also began hosting successful passive programs. Our book group for adults increased in attendees, and teen patrons visited the library more with increased VolunTEEN program interest, for which we accepted 12 teens who promoted the library at school, to families and in the community. The Clendenin Library Advisory Board became more involved, as members attended programs and made purchases for the branch. Among these were musical instruments for preschool programs and a mini laminator for staff.

Cross Lanes

Introduced *Rhythm and Rhyme Time* as an additional storytime offering that became well-attended. Purchased sewing machines and a digital paper cutter to enhance creative programming. Expanded adult programming through the formation of a weekly crochet club and numerous well-attended workshops. Added STEM equipment relating to circuits, robotics and coding. Implemented programs for children and teens using new materials.

Dunbar

Extended outreach to local elementary schools and public events such as *Kid's Day in the Park*, *Dunbar Ice Cream Social* and *Storybook Family Night*. Added 6 new Windows 10 public computers and redesigned the Teen Zone to better serve patrons.

Elk Valley

Hosted successful Snow and STEM family fun programs in January. Collaborated with La Carreta Mexican Restaurant for Cinco de Mayo Program. One of our LA-II staff members began monthly *Adult Crafternoon* programs, which was previously done by the Branch Manager and Children's Specialist. Patrons were excited about the new Wi-Fi Hotspot service. Collaborated with Elk River Backpack Blessings to have snack bags available at all KCPL branches in June and July. Children's Specialist continued to visit day cares monthly for *Read Aloud* and made several visits to the schools for the same program.

Glasgow

Updated our seating area with new and more comfortable chairs, which has become a favorite space for patrons. Installed a digital voicemail for patrons to check hours of operation. As a location with no programming, we began passive programming with coloring sheets. DVDs were moved to a larger area to provide more space to an ever-increasing popular checkout.

Marmet

Added safety and security updates: digital voice announcer, removed and trimmed large bushes to increase visibility, and added bright LED lighting around the building. Created additional space around the circulation desk for better confidentiality for patrons. Installed a digital voicemail system to inform patrons of our hours of operation. Collaborated with Elk Valley Snack Backpack Blessings as a location for children to pick up a bag of snacks over the summer.

Riverside

Rearranged our children's area to create a larger space for play, and added a new, large area rug that brings color and fun to the area as well. Created a new and more comfortable reading area for adults with purple chairs that bring a splash of color in front of the windows. Created more space for DVDs by providing 10 extra shelves! The area around the outside library sign was weeded, and white rock was used to help the sign stand out. Collaborated with Riverside High School for a teen program during their *Warrior Time*. Digital voicemail was installed to inform patrons of our hours of operation. Collaborated with Elk Valley Snack Backpack Blessings as a location for children to pick up a bag of snacks this summer.

Sissonville

Increased program attendance. Partnered with Sissonville Middle School's librarian to provide library cards to students. Collaborated with the Greater Sissonville Development Council to begin planning the very first Sissonville Community Christmas. Served as a polling location during the Kanawha County 2018 Election. New program initiatives have been well-received and generated a lot of attention. For example, the Sissonville Cookbook Club was recently featured in BookList.

St. Albans

St. Albans participated in *Project BUILD*, a grant program sponsored by the National Science Foundation in partnership with the Space Science Institute's National Center for Interactive Learning, the University of Virginia, and the American Society of Civil Engineers. St. Albans Branch Library is one of six libraries in the nation selected to participate in the program. The program encourages interest in engineering for children in grades 2-5 through *Ready, Set, Create!* STEM events featuring professional engineers and circulating STEM kits that families can use together at home. St. Albans welcomed three new part time staff members: Andrew Blessing, Jennifer Cline and Lyle Edmonds. We were very thankful to receive four new desk chairs for staff. St. Albans presented *Project Build: Ready, Set, Create!* A series of STEM programs led by Michelle Ross who traveled to Denver, Colorado for training. A staff member completed his MLIS degree in May from the University of Southern Florida.

Marketing and Development

Created many types of materials (e.g. posters, flyers, calendars, brochures, large banners, standing signs, billboards, animations, website content, news releases, electronic publications, etc.) for use in promoting services, programs, events, classes, and major events such as Street Fair, Summer Library Club, the West Virginia Book Festival, Mobile Wi-Fi Hotspots, Kanopy, Summer of Snacks and many more. Worked extensively with staff throughout the system to provide essential promotional materials and worked with the local press and other organizations to increase awareness of library services, events, classes and more.

Mobile Library

More than 158 patrons visited us during the *Teddy Bear Fair* at Women's and Children's Hospital. This is the second year of our program *Crafts in the Park*. Increased the number of visits this past year to Coonskin and saw an increase in patron participation. Added two new stops on the summer Mobile Library calendar. Participated in the *East End Block Party*.

Children's Services

Celebrated team milestones with a party for Pam Reger's 50 years of service with KCPL and with Nina Bess named as the 2019 Linda G. Wright Award winner. Successfully collaborated with numerous community organizations (such as Aetna, Appalachian Children's Chorus, Charleston Convention and Visitors Bureau, Marshall University, Step By Step, and WVU Extension Service) on programming, book lists, etc. Celebrated the achievements of women with programs for Katherine Johnson's 100th birthday and with those celebrating the contributions of our Rosie the Riveters. Presented a very successful spring event, *Bunny Eggstravaganza*, which will become an annual event. Offered a diverse array of hands-on activities for children and families in the *Word Play* activity area at the 2018 West Virginia Book Festival.

Public Services and Popular Materials

Inventoried the entire Main Library's DVD collection. Reviewed our expansion collection, which had been around for at least 22 years; titles were re-assigned where needed and remaining were sent to Booksale. Staff promoted the Winter Reading program and helped increase participation. Because of that, staff were able to build a huge snowman from the snowflakes of the program. Staff participated in helping out with Harry Potter Night in February, which was a big success. Department won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Creativity. All staff were trained to register patrons for Summer Library Club. PM staff worked on decorations and badges, as well as served cake, at the KCPL birthday party on June 3. Staff promoted the new wireless hot-spot devices, and successfully launched Kanopy by promoting the new service to the public.

Tech Services

Added 55,042 new items to the collection, checked in and distributed 9,634 magazines and newspapers, sent 711 ILL items to other libraries and provided 775 ILL items to KCPL patrons. Department RFID tagged around 160,000 items. Added the new service Kanopy.



2018 - 2019 Community Report

930,838
items circulated

485,962
patron visits

317,706
website visits

98,273
registered patrons

203,522 questions answered

1,639 events & classes for children & families

37,736 attended events & classes for children & families

742 events & classes for adults and teens

10,235 attended events & classes for adults & teens

84,312 public computer sessions

19,339 people used KCPL meeting rooms

1,346 teen volunteer hours

1,346 adult volunteer hours

766

**Making
a positive
impact on our
community.**



KCPL Welcomes New Director

After 11 years as library director, Alan Engelbert retired from the Kanawha County Public Library in 2018. Through his leadership and dedication, Alan helped reestablish the library as a hub of community activity and gathering. KCPL appreciates his contributions to the library and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

In September, KCPL welcomed its newest library director, Ms. Riti Grover. With more than 15 years of experience as a library professional, Riti brings a strong level of professional expertise and a new, vibrant energy to the Kanawha County Public Library. As director, she immediately installed new programming and transformational initiatives, and positioned the library to remain a community leader in the years ahead. The KCPL family is looking forward to the future with Riti at the helm!



www.reimagineyourlibrary.com

Reimagine Your Library

The renovation project to reimagine the Kanawha County Public Library continues to climb toward its \$27 million goal. Thanks to the generosity of private donors and organizations, including a \$2 million donation from the family of Henry B. Wehrle, Jr., construction on this transformative project will begin soon. This renovation will turn our iconic building into a state-of-the-art facility with 20,000 more square feet of space, including new study areas, meeting rooms, and a café. KCPL is excited to create a beautiful, functional, and unique space to serve our region for generations to come.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the 2018/2019 Annual Fund from June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019:

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Branch libraries located in
 unincorporated areas of Kanawha
 County are asked to raise a portion
 of their operating expenses.

Our THANKS to the following
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 Church Mouse Thrift Store
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 in memory of Barbara Redman
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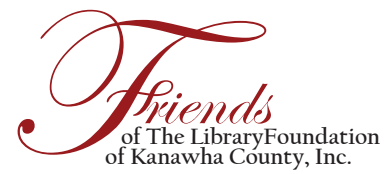
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Baskets Galore

This spring, The Friends hosted the 13th annual *A Tisket, A Tasket: A Silent Auction of Literary Baskets* as a fundraiser for KCPL.

Nearly 100 baskets with various literary themes were donated by people from the community. The baskets were auctioned off as attendees enjoyed music and delicious hors d'oeuvres.



A Yacht of Fun

The Friends of The Library volunteered at the annual Corporate Regatta in June, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of West Charleston. The Friend's entry won the award for the best decorated yacht.

Participants raced against each other and propelled their boats around the fountain on the Main Library plaza with water guns. A portion of the proceeds from the event support the Kanawha County Public Library's Summer Library Club.



Library Champion

This year, Anne Silbernagel became the first member of the Kanawha County Public Library Board of Directors to be awarded the 2019 West Virginia Library Commission's Volunteer of the Year Award. She was presented the award as *Library Champion* before an audience of friends and family, as well as library patrons and staff. Congratulations, Anne!



Vision

We envision the Kanawha County Public Library as the people's premier source of information in a community where learning and reading are revered and being well-informed is valued.

Mission

- To provide free and equal access to information
- To provide citizens with job training and career development information that will prepare them for a competitive job market
- To enrich individual and family lives through satisfying educational, recreational and cultural experiences
- To enable patrons to access new information technology
- To provide opportunities for lifelong learning
- To serve as the center of community life
- To use available resources efficiently
- To seek additional resources

2018-2019 Kanawha County Public Library Budget

Income			Expenditures		
Levying Authorities	\$7,073,457	84.62%	Salaries/Benefits	\$5,250,024	62.81%
State Grants	\$958,797	11.47%	Materials	\$971,510	11.62%
Other	\$326,410	3.91%	Other	\$2,137,130	25.57%
Total	\$8,358,664	100%	Total	\$8,358,664	100%

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