Enrich

Educate

Entertain

2011-2012 Annual Report
2011-2012 Highlights:

Kanawha County Public Library is committed to meeting the needs of its patrons. We continue to grow, change and make improvements throughout the year to provide quality customer service to the community.

The new Elk Valley Branch Library opened to the public on Aug. 9. The larger, more accessible facility created room for a larger collection and additional computers. Increased meeting space allows the branch to offer a new evening family storytime, a needlecraft group for teens and adults and an Anime Club for teens.

Sissonville Branch Library registered every student at Flinn Elementary for a library card and hosted two class visits each week throughout the year. The Sissonville Advisory Board presented four Arthur Fisher Awards to students at Flinn and Sissonville Elementary Schools in recognition of their highest-achieving Accelerated Readers. The branch also started a new adult book discussion group.

Riverside Public Library has seen an increase in the number of students and teachers who use the library. Students are using the computers, checking out materials for class projects and socializing during lunch and after school. Staff also registered new library card holders at Walmart and during Parent Day at Sharon Dawes Elementary School. Patrons are enjoying the lights, switches and video on the large, interactive Space Shuttle created by staff member Dianna Dyer to promote KCPL’s Summer Reading Club.

Clendenin Branch Library held a bookmark design contest during Library Lovers Month in February. The winners were announced at Clendenin Elementary School.

St. Albans and Dunbar Branch Library staff trained for Code Adam, a child safety program that establishes procedures for a missing child within a building.

All locations received building improvements such as painting, landscaping, new furniture, signage and rugs. Phones and other equipment were upgraded to provide better service to patrons. Furniture, shelving and books were rearranged to make items more accessible. St. Albans and Dunbar both received much-needed new roofs.

Many branches have seen an increase in requests for e-reader training.

The Mobile Library added new community stops and celebrated National Bookmobile Day by distributing special bookmarks and stickers.

A 97-year-old-patron registered for her first library card at Marmet Branch Library so she could read West by West: My Charmed, Tormented Life, by Jerry West, one of the featured authors at the 2011 West Virginia Book Festival.

Computer use has increased at the Glasgow Branch Library, especially among children and teens. Audio books and Express Collections are also very popular.

Cross Lanes held a successful basket auction to provide funding for community programs and services.

Popular Materials staff members have focused on readers’ advisory initiatives by creating themed displays and offering reading suggestions to patrons.

The Main Library hosted a reception during the West Virginia Library Association’s October conference in Charleston.

KCPL partnered with the Charleston Town Center Mall for Wee Trick or Treat, character storytime, the Summer Library Club Kickoff and our first off-site book group which meets at Panera Bread on the last Wednesday of each month.

Other community partnerships include the Clay Center, River City Youth Ballet, Charleston Stage Company, Girl Scouts of Black Diamond Council, Read Aloud West Virginia, Cabin Creek Clinic and Thanks! Plain and Simple.

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Staff are serving on the Education, Downtown Revitalization, Leadership, Economic Development and Health committees for the Charleston Area Alliance’s Vision 2030 planning initiative. KCPL is also involved in the City of Charleston’s comprehensive redevelopment and planning program, Imagine Charleston: Your Dream. Our Future.

The Children’s Department coordinated Home School Day events and a Kids Connection training on the KCPL’s Every Child Ready to Read program. Staff also hosted a booth at the Celebrating Connections conference, attended by more than 2,000 early childhood educators.

KCPL staff photo, taken at Staff Development Day 2012
Libraries were created to provide free, accessible information to everyone. Kanawha County Public Library works in partnership with the community to assess patron needs and design services and programs to meet those needs. Our patrons tell us what they want and we are listening.

Recent years have seen an explosion in the way that information is provided. In response to patron demand, KCPL has expanded the number of downloadable items offered. More and more people are buying e-readers and downloading e-books through the West Virginia Digital Entertainment Library Initiative (WVDeli) and nearly half of WVDeli users are KCPL patrons. WV Deli is a consortium of 10 West Virginia libraries offering downloadable items. The addition of items available from WVDeli and a rise in e-reader ownership has resulted in a 225 percent increase in KCPL patron usage of WVDeli. KCPL staff members at every location are trained to teach patrons how to use their e-reader and how to download items from WVDeli.

To make patrons aware of the extensive number of research tools that KCPL provides, the Library developed a year-long promotion to showcase online databases such as Tutor.com, live homework help for students of all ages; Mango Languages, an online language learning program; and EBSCOhost, a resource for articles and information from newspapers, magazines and journals. Other online tools include a variety of services and databases for entrepreneurs and job seekers.

Computer usage is increasing, and we are making more computers available at the library. At the same time, many patrons bring their own laptops to the library to take advantage of the free WiFi available at the Main Library and at all of our branches. A mobile applications team has been created to monitor and grow the library’s mobile web services. New book discussion groups have been added and some authors are now participating via Skype.

Even as KCPL continues to adapt to ongoing changes in the world, we remain committed to providing traditional library services and programs. This year’s Summer Library Club kickoff weekend included events for adults, teens and children, with a presentation by West Virginia’s own Homer Hickam and a variety of activities provided in partnership with the Charleston Civic Center, Charleston Town Center Mall, the Clay Center and NASA. The popular Sunday Jams series continues to provide hundreds of patrons with a musical escape from the winter blues, and the West Virginia Book Festival hosts thousands of book lovers from around the state and beyond.

The library is a vital and integral partner in our community. KCPL offered programs in conjunction with Charleston Stage Company productions, provided meeting space for numerous community organizations and helped the Girl Scouts celebrate their 100-year anniversary with special events and displays at branches throughout the system.

The success of an express DVD pilot project at Elk Valley has resulted in the expansion of that program to the Main Library in Charleston, as well as the St. Albans and Dunbar branches. Audiobooks and express collection items remain popular with patrons.

Educators rely on KCPL to provide relevant teacher collections, children participate in programs that teach early literacy and instill a love of reading, and adult groups engage in discussions about history, society and politics.

There will always be a need for free and equal access to information, and we are committed to evolving to meet the needs of the community. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Kanawha County and are thankful for the staff members who provide premier customer service throughout the year and for the many volunteers and donors who are dedicated to the mission and vision of Kanawha County Public Library.

**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
Community Programs and Services

KCPL has quality business-related titles in a variety of formats and the library’s website contains many resources. Reference USA helps small business owners and entrepreneurs create marketing plans, conduct competitive analysis and research consumer data.

Learning Express Library offers interactive courses in math, reading, writing and software applications for targeted skill-building. There are also interactive practice tests for a wide variety of exams.

Job & Career Accelerator provides personalized, step-by-step assistance for job seekers to explore occupations, find available jobs, create resumes, and develop interview and work-related skills.

This year, KCPL added Proquest Entrepreneurship which provides one-stop access to a full range of current and authoritative resources for researchers and emerging or practicing entrepreneurs who are looking to start, grow or maintain a business.

A Tisket, a Tasket ... A Literary Basket, the annual fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of The Library Foundation of Kanawha County, raised more than $31,000 for children’s and family programming at branches throughout the library system. The event supports KCPL’s Summer Library Club, the West Virginia Book Festival and other special programs.

Nearly 300 guests bid on 64 literary-themed baskets filled with books, gift certificates, event tickets, gift items and much more. Three Kindle Fires were given away as door prizes. Live auction baskets included grounds badges for the Greenbrier Classic, Pittsburgh Pirates tickets and a family trip to Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala.

Funds from the auction were also used to sponsor interactive learning panels at eight of the library’s branches and a NOOK Color e-reader to be used in the Mobile Library and at the Glasgow and Marmet branches. The learning panels are designed to promote the early literacy skills of very young children.

In October, thousands of people gathered in the Charleston Civic Center to celebrate books, authors and reading. The 11th annual West Virginia Book Festival brought in people from all over West Virginia and many other states who were entertained and enlightened by authors and illustrators from the Mountain State and across the nation.

West Virginia University and Los Angeles Lakers basketball legend Jerry West discussed his autobiography, West by West: My Charmed, Tormented Life and signed autographs for hundreds of fans. Bestselling author Lee Child talked about his journey to becoming an author and how he created Jack Reacher, his popular character featured in 17 novels.

The festival appeals to people of all ages with programs and activities for children, teens and adults. The free, two-day event featured workshops for teachers and aspiring writers and presentations by storytellers and humorists.

Jerry West

Lee Child
2012 Snapshot Day

On Tuesday, February 14, KCPL, along with libraries across the state, participated in the West Virginia Library Commission's Library Snapshot Day, an initiative designed to illustrate the impact that libraries have on their communities.

During that day, staff members at our libraries kept statistics and took photos of how the public used our services. Throughout the system, almost 3,500 people visited Kanawha County Public Library. Patrons checked out nearly 4,000 items (including 222 items from WV Deli), placed holds on 600 items and asked 235 reference questions. Users logged 725 sessions on our public computers and we issued 27 library cards to new patrons.

Summer Library Club Kickoff

All KCPL branches joined forces to launch a two-day kickoff weekend for our Reading is a Blast! Summer Reading Club. The weekend began at the Civic Center Little Theatre as West Virginia's own Rocket Boy, Homer Hickam, discussed his science fiction novel, Crater, the first in a trilogy about a teenage boy who lives in a colony on the moon in the 22nd century.

The fun continued the following day with children's space-themed games and activities at Charleston Town Center Mall and the Clay Center. Outside the mall, children had a blast making and launching their own rockets with Jess White from NASA. More than 1,100 people toured NASA's Journey to Tomorrow traveling exhibit, featuring a moon rock, lunar landing simulator, glovebox activities and a solar system scale.

Music and colorful balloons filled the air as people spent a relaxing day enjoying all of the crafts, games and entertainment that FestivALL had to offer. Crowds were lined up early to take advantage of the bargain prices on used books, CDs and DVDs at KCPL's used book sale.

The Friends of The Library Foundation hosted their annual bake sale with ice-cold drinks, crispy snacks and sweet, homemade treats. Throughout the day, Friends volunteers also promoted KCPL's Space Camp Contest and gave away free balloons to kids of all ages.

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Other activities included tours of the KCPL Mobile Library and exhibits by the Kanawha Valley Astronomical Society and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory.
A special **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the 2011 - 2012 Annual Fund:

The **Open a Modern Classic** capital campaign took a giant step this year. In August 2011 we completed the first project of the campaign! The new Elk Valley Branch Library opened at The Crossings Mall in Elkview. This facility has the distinction of being the first public library in West Virginia to be located in a shopping mall.

Our success at the new Elk Valley Branch Library reaffirms that our other planned capital projects in this campaign -- including most notably a new Main Library in downtown Charleston -- will help meet unmet needs in our communities, and dramatically enhance the quality of life of every citizen in our region. Yes, the economic recession has affected us, but we are still making steady progress in our campaign. We live in a generous community, indeed.

The total raised to date is about $18.5 million. Strikingly, most of our contributions come from private donors. We know that public library projects usually get only about 10 to 15 percent of their funding from private sources. The private money we have raised so far in this campaign would already equal about 40 percent of the campaign goal. The citizens of Charleston and Kanawha County have made it clear they support a new library. We are actively seeking public funding at city, county, state and federal levels.

The public library is, after all, a public building. Its mission is a public one -- to provide free, equal and uncensored access to information to all citizens. Some ask: Do we need libraries in the age of the internet, Google and e-books? The answer is YES! Library services are evolving and Kanawha County Public Library is adapting to meet the changing needs. The library has wonderful telecommunications capabilities and electronic resources, a growing collection of e-books, and access for mobile devices.

In many ways, the public library is more needed because of advances in technology. The Pew Research Center recently reported about the digital divide in the use of e-books. People without a high school diploma, the unemployed, rural Americans and Hispanics, those with incomes of less than $30,000 are less likely to use e-books. The center said, “Without libraries, the division would be even greater, since for many people they serve as the only access point for digital information and services.”

Even as the library responds to technological advances, it continues to offer services for which Google and e-books will never be a substitute.

Kanawha County Public Library checks out more than 1 million books, DVDs and CDs a year. The public library also offers programming, early literacy, meeting space, expert assistance -- and all of it is FREE!

The Library Foundation of Kanawha County exists to support the vision and mission of the Kanawha County Public Library system.

Through the capital campaign, the Foundation seeks to bring to Kanawha County a modern, state-of-the-art library that would be a destination attraction for our capital city.

Like other recent major projects -- The Clay Center, Haddad Riverfront Park, Capitol Market, Appalachian Power Park, the Gateway Greenspace -- the new library will improve the quality of life and serve as a catalyst in all of Kanawha County for new businesses, galleries, shops and recreational activities.

Charleston and the Kanawha Valley are in the midst of unprecedented planning efforts with Imagine Charleston and Vision 2030.

As this community looks forward to the future with excitement about the possibilities, we look forward to the day when we **Open a Modern Classic**!

**Thomas A. Heywood, President**

**The Library Foundation of Kanawha County, Inc.**

Anonymous
Anthony G. Abatjoglou
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Tim Alderman
Jeanette M. Alexander
R. Ruffner Alexander
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Diana S. Amores
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Otto Drescher
Debora J. Duvall
Edgewood Summit, in memory of Maxine Poe
Ralph L. Edwards
Mary Alice Elkins
Mary Alice Elkins, in honor of Reference Librarians Olivia Bravo, Elizabeth Fraser and David Schau and to honor the memory of the early members of the Woman’s Kanawha Literary Club for their efforts in the founding of the Kanawha County Public Library.

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Denise Ferris
Roy L. Frame
Carolyn Frye
Samme L. Gee
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Karen J. Glasier
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William D. Mitchell
The Open a Modern Classic campaign needs your contribution!

Please consider making a generous donation to help Kanawha County build a new Main Library and make branch improvements to serve future generations. Gifts at all levels are needed and appreciated. There are naming opportunities available to permanently link a donor’s or a loved one’s name with the tradition and the future of the library.

Visit our website at www. kanawhali brary.org/building/ for more information about the capital campaign and how you can donate. If you have questions or would like additional information about the campaign, please contact Patty Tompkins, development coordinator, at patt y.tompkins@kanawhalib rary.org or (304) 343-4646, ext. 251.

Riverside
Dianne Allport
James B. Clatworthy
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Ronny and JoAnn Harris
Trudy L. O’Dell
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Angelia M. Russell
David and Nancy Siders
Sandra and James Singleton
Jessie L. Skiles
Teresa Stone
Sallie R. Turner

Sissonville
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Jerry L. Barker and
Lynne S. Schwartz Barker
Jeanne Barnhart
Jack and Rethia Bumgardner
Curtis and Patricia Caldwell
Nova Casto
Talma Coffman
Cliff and Nancy Cunningham
Janessa Davis
Gary Facemyer
Tracy Gary
John F. Godbey
Michael G. Godwin
Imperial Hydraulic Service, Inc.
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Ronny and JoAnn Harris
Trudy L. O’Dell
Larry L. Rowe
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Philip H. Wright
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Monica L. Burdette
Denny and Marilyn Byrnsde
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Nelle Ratrie Chilton
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Frances L. Sloan
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Chris and Lisa Turley

The Open a Modern Classic campaign needs your contribution!

Please consider making a generous donation to help Kanawha County build a new Main Library and make branch improvements to serve future generations. Gifts at all levels are needed and appreciated. There are naming opportunities available to permanently link a donor’s or a loved one’s name with the tradition and the future of the library.

Visit our website at www. kanawhali brary.org/building/ for more information about the capital campaign and how you can donate. If you have questions or would like additional information about the campaign, please contact Patty Tompkins, development coordinator, at patt y.tompkins@kanawhalib rary.org or (304) 343-4646, ext. 251.

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Kanawha County Public Library system’s big news in 2011 was the long-anticipated opening of the new Elk Valley Branch.

After more than 30 years, the branch had outgrown its home in a former church building, where the usable space was limited because of problems with handicap accessibility.

The new location is an 8,500-square-foot, freestanding building at The Crossings Mall in Elkview.

Since the grand opening on Aug. 9, circulation has increased nearly 50 percent. The branch has registered 1,048 new cardholders, more than twice the number who registered the year before.

The library is now open longer hours, has more computers available for patrons and is able to offer more programs than ever. The modern building offers an expanded collection and comfortable seating areas. Elk Valley was the first branch to offer KCPL’s new express DVD collection, which has now been expanded to the Main Library and some other branches.

Branch Manager Ellie Teaford reports that the branch’s community meeting room and three smaller study rooms are heavily used.

“I think it shows what a good, accessible building and adequate parking can do,” said KCPL director Alan Engelbert.

“The statistics tell the tale of its success,” said Tom Heywood, president of the Library Foundation of Kanawha County. “Clearly, the people of Elk Valley wanted and needed a new library.”

The Elk Valley Branch is the first project completed as part of the library’s Open a Modern Classic capital campaign.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Levying Authorities $6,522,913 79%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Grants</td>
<td>$886,779 11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$839,361 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$8,249,053 100%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Salaries/Benefits $5,333,321 64%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>$1,126,200 14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$1,789,532 22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$8,249,053 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The children’s computer area was very popular during Elk Valley’s grand opening. Computer tables in two different heights and an adjustable table for wheelchair accessibility allow children of all ages to use the library’s computers.

The children’s play area offers games, books and opportunities to learn and explore. Like all KCPL branches, Elk Valley also provides children and family programming throughout the year.

Teens can spend time in one of the quiet study rooms, use the library’s computers or just relax with a book in the Teen Zone, a comfortable reading area just for teens.