More to Celebrate!

We all know that December brings holiday cheer in the form of Christmas, Santa and reindeer, elves, and tons of good things to eat! There are, however, lots of other reasons to celebrate this December. Read on for some interesting, yet little known holidays!

December 2 is National Fitters Day. While the origin of this day are not known, take this opportunity to indulge in your favorite fritter! What is a fritter? You might be surprised to learn that a lot of people do not know. A fritter is a fried cake or dough with fruit or meat inside. Now, go out and get some!

December 4 is Wear Brown Shoes Day. This is something you don’t want to miss. If you would like to accessorize appropriately, the sock color is...BROWN! Hand in hand with this holiday is Put on Your Own Clogs Day on December 6. Don’t get caught wearing someone else’s clogs on this day! No telling what will happen!

Lemon lovers will enjoy celebrating National Lemon Cupcake Day on December 15. If you would prefer a lemon poundcake or cookie, I’m sure you wouldn’t get in trouble for substituting! Here’s a great one...National Chocolate Covered Anything Day! Don’t be afraid! Try chocolate on anything and everything today; on eggs, asparagus, potato chips, green beans, whatever! Just don’t come to me when you get really sick.

What Christmas would be the same without the traditional decorated tree? Find your perfect specimen on December 23, there is Festivus, for the rest of us! As you can see, there are great holidays to celebrate this December. Read more unusual and fun days to celebrate Humbug Day on December 21. Then, of course, on December 23, there is Festivus, for the rest of us!

If all this yuletide spirit is making you crazy, take the opportunity to celebrate Humbug Day on December 21. Then, of course, on December 23, there is Festivus, for the rest of us!

As you can see, there are great holidays that beg to be recognized. For more unusual and fun days to celebrate in December, go to Holiday Insights at http://tinyurl.com/q2thd5u

BTW, it’s also BINGO month!

Director’s Spotlight

HANDMADE IS HEART-FELT!

December is such a celebratory month, so many nations observe special days like Christmas, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, Hanukah, and Fiesta of our Lady Guadalupe. We all know that at the heart, this is a season of the year for giving, sharing, and thankfulness, even though television and shopping centers may tell us different. Instead of fretting over what to buy for whom, some of the most cherished gifts given often are those made by the hands and heart. Here are a few downloadable titles that may inspire your creative side and just may pique your interest to take up a new hobby. The Art of Paper Cutting by Henya Melichson demonstrates the history and beauty of this craft that requires very little tools but makes a huge impact. Think about making your own holiday greeting cards! Do you know a young girl who is just dying to have her room redecorated? Bedroom Makeover Crafts by Kathy Ross contains low-cost, dramatic bedroom craft ideas to fit any girl’s personality. Basketmaker’s Odyssey: Over, Under, Around & Through by Lyn Syler and Carolyn Kemp provides up to twenty-four patterns for novices, and some for a real challenge! Not only do we have these digital downloadable titles, our library shelves are full of thousands of fantastic craft and hobby ideas and demonstrations. Feel free to browse our craft sections online or in the aisles, we have something for everyone to satisfy your hobby interests!
Need a Place to Meet?

Are you an out of town lawyer looking for a place to meet with your clients? Are you part of an organization that needs a room to conduct a training class? How about a non-profit agency that needs to put together a fund raiser, and needs a room with media access? Want to start a yoga group but don’t know where to meet? You could pay for available conference rooms in the area, but why not meet at the library? The Marion County Public Library offers two meeting rooms with wifi access, closed-circuit tvs, and DVD players. The Mannington and Fairview branches also have meeting rooms available for general use. And the best part is, they’re free!

You can reserve a room by visiting our website at www.mcpls.org. Once there, click on the How Do I? icon in the task bar to the far right of the page. You will be directed to a help page. The first topic under Ask a Question is Book a Meeting Room. Click on mcpls.evanced.info/spaces; then just follow the directions to apply for space at any of our locations. You will be contacted when your reservation is confirmed, usually within 12-24 hours. That’s it.

The library offers so much more than books. Check out our online services to download music, ebooks, audiobooks, and movies. With Zinio, you can have a variety of great magazines at your fingertips. We also offer a selection of free programming for all ages, and our new exhibit room features traveling exhibits from all over the country. Check us out on Facebook or visit our website and get reacquainted with the library of today...we’re not just books anymore!

Special Features

Playaways

Audio

Blood Magick by Nora Roberts
The Cinderella Murder by Mary Higgins Clark
The Escape by David Baldacci
Flesh and Blood by Patricia Cornwell
Hope to Die by James Patterson
The Job by Janet Evanovich
Pegasus by Danielle Steel
Revival by Stephen King

Views

Animorphs Vol. 1
Christmas Cartoon Collection 2
Meet the Phonics-Digraphs
Clifford the Big Red Dog, Vol 2

Bestsellers Expected in October

Print

The Assassination Option by W. E. B. Griffin
The Big Finish by James W. Hall
Collison by Mercedes Lackey
A Deadly Web by Kay Hooper
Die Again by Tess Gerritsen
Dogwood Hill by Sherryl Woods
Hush by Karen Robards
Rain on the Dead by Jack Higgins
Robert B. Parker’s The Bridge by Robert Knott
St. Odd by Kean Koontz
Tom Clancy Full Force and Effect by Mark Greaney
Woman With a Gun by Philip Margolin
You Know Who Killed Me by Loren D. Estelman

Large Print

The Cinderella Murder by Mary Higgins Clark
Hope to Die by James Patterson
The Job by Janet Evanovich
Lila by Marilynne Robinson
No Hero by Mark Owen
Only Enchanting by Mary Balogh
Revival by Stephen King
Small Victories by Anne Lamott
Tom Clancy Full Force and Effect by Mark Greaney

DVDs

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad Day
The Best of Me
Dawn of the Planet of the Apes
Dolphin Tale 2
Dracula Untold
Guardians of the Galaxy
The Hundred Foot Journey
Magic in the Moonlight
The Skeleton Twins
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
This is Where I Leave You
When the Game Stands Tall
Family Holiday Event!

The library will be having their Holiday Family Fun event Saturday, December 6th. Crafts, treats, activities and holiday surprises will take place from 2:00-3:00 p.m. At 3:00, the annual holiday favorite puppet show Holiday Hijinks, will return with some favorites and new numbers. Help us kick off the holiday season and join us as we get things in full festive swing!

Author Signing

Join us on December 6, from 11:00-1:00 as we welcome local author Diana Pishner Walker. Diana will be on hand to talk about her new book, I Don't Want to Sit in the Front Row Anymore, a book about losing a loved one as the author shares tearful and light-hearted occurrences in order to endure. Books will be available for purchase and refreshments will be provided.

Tabletop Game Club

They're not your parents' board games! Join us on Wednesdays from 5:00-9:00 for some untraditional board games. Bring your own games, or use ours, either way it's free to play and you'll have a great time! Refreshments are provided, come when you can and stay as long as you want!

New Exhibit to Visit Library!

Beginning January 2nd through March 31, the Marion County Public Library will host Let Freedom Ring: The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. This exhibit comes to us from the National Exhibitions & Archives, LLC in Glen Falls, NY. The exhibit is free and open to the public during specific hours, and will be supplemented with several programs celebrating Black History Month and Women’s History Month. For more information, contact Julie at the library or to schedule special tours for school or other groups.

www.mcpls.org

MCPLS Bookmobile
ROUTE SCHEDULE Winter 2014 *

MONDAY

Pierpont Lab. Preschool: 9:30-10:30
FSU Campus
Monongah Park Trailhead: 11:00-12:00
Monongah
Hutchinson: 1:00-1:45
Woodlands Assisted Living
Stepping Stone, Inc: 3:45-4:45
East Grafton Road

TUESDAY

Grant Town: 9:30-10:30
Community Center lot
Heart Junction Child Care: 10:30-11:30
Rivesville
[2nd & 4th Week]
Disability Action Center: 2:30-3:30
102 Benoni Ave
[2nd Week]
Wishing Well/ Genesis: 2:30-3:30
Country Club Road
[1st & 3rd Week]
Boys & Girls Club: 3:45-4:45
Watson Elem: Mary Lou Retton Dr
[1st & 3rd Week]
Boys & Girls Club: 3:45-4:45
Watson Elem: Mary Lou Retton Dr
[2nd & 4th Week]

WEDNESDAY

Whitehall: 9:00-10:00
Middletown Mall
Pleasant Valley: 10:30-11:30
Valley Chapel United Meth. Lot
NASA IV & V: 12:00-1:00
Back parking lot
[1st & 3rd Week]
Wonderland Learning: 12:00-1:00
Mannington
[2nd & 4th Week]
Bunner Ridge: 2:30-3:30
Sagebrush Roundup lot
[1st & 3rd Week]
Boys & Girls Club: 3:45-4:45
Blackshear Elementary
[2nd & 4th Week]

THURSDAY

Bright Beginnings Day Care: 9:30-10:30
22 Moran Circle, Rt 73
Sunbeam Child Care Center: 11:00-12:00
Mary Lou Retton Drive
Rock Lake: 2:00-3:00
Community Center
Colfax: 3:30-4:30
Community Center
The Grinch Who Stole Christmas
Visit Whoville here at the library. Before heading over to watch the Christmas Parade, join Jami for a lively reading of *Twas the Night Before Christmas* and watch the original *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* at our The Grinch Who Stole Christmas Special, December 6th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. The whole Whoville staff will be serving cookies and hot chocolate to the whole family.

Huddle Time!
Winter Break will resume in February. Huddle Time is a new program for K-4 this fall. Every Monday, Jami alternates weekly programs; featuring school-age stories and activities between K-2 and 3-4 graders. To register, call 304-986-2803 (space is limited).

Story Time
Winter Break will resume in February. Story-time is a pre-school program instilling the love of reading into our 2-5 year olds. The program is every Wednesday at 10:30. To register, call the library at 304-986-2803, as space is limited.

Friends Book Sale
Stock up for the holidays! If you’re looking for books in great condition, check us out on Fridays from 10:00-4:00 and Saturdays from 9:00-1:00.

Reading S’More Books
December is here, and the holidays are near. Mrs. Alicia wraps up her Toddler Time and Story Hour fall sessions with two weeks of yuletide stories, games, and crafts. During the week of December 1st children will celebrate *Let it Snow!* And the following week will be host to each class’s individual Christmas Party. Little ones will take part in a gift exchange, help decorate Mrs. Alicia’s storytime Christmas tree, and sing some carols. Also, Mrs. Alicia will distribute a special gift to each of her students as a token of her appreciation for their participation and high energy this semester.

The winners of the Circle Time Reading Club will be treated to their choice of movie and a snack before going on their winter break. The coloring contest this month is *Unwrap a Good Book.*

Reindeer Games
Since our two book clubs are on hiatus in December, we are once again featuring our Secret Santa reading challenge. We will be displaying a variety of titles wrapped in holiday paper and arranged under our library Christmas tree. You won’t know what book you’ve got until you’ve unwrapped it and checked it out. For each Secret Santa title you check out, read, and review, you will be entered into a drawing for a holiday gift basket that will be awarded to one lucky winner drawn at random on December 18th. The more you read and review, the better your chances of winning!

Trivia buffs can also join us on December 18th from 9:00-2:00 for our monthly contest, *What Do You Know About That?* Patrons ages 14-up are eligible to participate, and the patron with the most correct answers wins a prize.

Our featured monthly guessing game at the Circulation Desk is *Mint Condition.* Guess how many mints are in the jar, be the closest without going over, and win!

Just a Reminder
Our two basket drives will be ending in December. Mitten Tree on December 5th and Food Pantry on December 12th. There’s still time to make a difference by giving to those in need. Also, we’d like to say Thank You to those who have already been so gracious with their generosity throughout the season.
Marion County Public Library

- Dec 3, 10, 17: Tabletop Games 5:00-9:00
- Dec 6: Holiday Family Fun Event
- Dec 6: Diana Walker book signing
- Dec 6: Friends Book Sale, 9:00-11:00
- Dec 16: Library closes @ 3:00
- Dec 24-28: Closed
- Dec 31: Library closes @ 3:00
- Jan 1: Closed

*Fairview Branch*

- Dec 1-18: Secret Santa Reading Challenge
- Dec 1-30: Kids Coloring Workshop
- Dec 1-30: Mint Condition Guessing Game
- Dec 1, 8: Toddler Time
- Dec 2, 9, 16, 23: Tuesday Nite Knitters
- Dec 3, 5, 10, 11: Story Hour
- Dec 8: Mitten Tree Drive Ends
- Dec 12: Food Pantry Drive ends
- Dec 18: What Do You Know About That? Trivia
- Dec 18: Library closes @ 3:00
- Dec 24-28: Closed
- Dec 31: Library closes @ 3:00
- Jan 1: Closed

*Mannington Branch*

- Dec 5, 12, 19: Friends Book Sale, 10:00-4:00
- Dec 6, 13, 20: Friends Book Sale, 9:00-1:00
- Dec 6: Grinch Who Stole Christmas Special
- Dec 9: Library closes @ 3:00
- Dec 8: Fiction Addiction Book Club
- Dec 18: Cover2Cover
- Dec 24-28: Closed
- Dec 31: Library closes @ 3:00
- Jan 1: Closed

**New E-Books**

- *Atlantia* by Ally Condie
- *Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel
- *Citizens Creek* by Lalita Tademy
- *De Niro* by Shawn Levy
- *A Dog’s Journey* by W. Bruce Cameron
- *Gardener’s Son* by Cormac McCarthy
- *The Handsome Man* by Alexander McCall Smith
- *Night Moves* by Nora Roberts
- *The QB* by Bruce Feldman
- *The Story of Land and Sea* by Katy Smith
- *Wayfarer Stranger* by James Lee Burke
- *Yours for Christmas* by Susan Mallery

**New Audio Books**

- *The Assassination Option* by W. E. B. Griffin
- *A Deadly Web* by Kay Hooper
- *Die Again* by Tess Gerritsen
- *Dogwood Hill* by Sherryl Woods
- *Hush* by Karen Robards
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- *Saving Grace* by Jane Green
- *Woman with a Gun* by Philip Margolin

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Hello All!

Tis the season, that’s such a fun thing to hear. Because it is the season to celebrate! Holidays always bring us close to our friends and family and remind us how special these times are. I love spending time with my nephews Farris and Manny! I’m so excited to see them for the holiday visits.

May the joy of the season bring you many surprises! Remember the library is here to assist you and enhance your holidays. If you get a new gift or tablet, be sure to take full advantage of all the library has to offer for eBooks, audio, magazines and much more.

From the staff of the Marion County Public Libraries, Myself, Manny and Farris, we wish the happiest of holiday wishes!

Marion LiBearnian, the Town Librarian

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**Fairmont**

**Book It!** will meet on January 21, at 6:00 p.m. at the Literacy Volunteers classroom to discuss *Billy Creekmore* by Tracey Porter.

Ten year-old Billy’s story begins in a Dickensian orphanage, where being pawned off to a local glass factory is one of the few routes out. Billy looks forward to working, until his pal runs away after being disfigured at the factory and discloses its real conditions. Billy is saved from the same fate by the appearance of a long-lost uncle, who takes him to a West Virginia coal mining town. ~Amazon

**The Awesome Readers’ Club** will resume in January. Check out our newsletter or Facebook page for details after the holidays. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

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**Fairview**

**Speaking of Books** and **Page Turners** will not meet in December. Check back in January to find out what titles will be discussed next, or you can stop by the Fairview Public Library for more information or to sign up.

**Mannington**

**Fiction Addiction** will meet December 8, at 4:30 to discuss *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore.

Katsa has been able to kill a man with her bare hands since she was eight—she’s a Graceling, one of the rare people in her land born with an extreme skill. As niece of the king, she should be able to live a life of privilege, but Graced as she is with killing, she is forced to work as the king’s thug.

Grades 5-8 are invited to attend the Fiction Addiction book club. Stop by and pick up your copy today. We will also enjoy an activity, based on the book each month. Those interested may sign up at the front desk of call 304-986-2803.

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**Cover 2 Cover** will meet on December 16, at 1:30 to discuss *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells.

When Siddalée Walker, oldest daughter of Vivi Abbott Walker, Ya-Ya extraordinaire, is interviewed in the New York Times about a hit play she’s directed, her mother gets described as a “tap-dancing child abuser.” Enraged, Vivi disowns Sidda. Devastated, Sidda begs forgiveness, and postpones her upcoming wedding. All looks bleak until the Ya-Yas step in and convince Vivi to send Sidda a scrapbook of their childhood mementos, called *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*.

As Sidda struggles to analyze her mother, she comes face to face with the tangled beauty of imperfect love, and the fact that forgiveness, more than understanding, is often what the heart longs for.

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**www.mcpls.org**
You Are Cordially Invited…

Each library branch in our system has its own Friends of the Library group. These wonderful volunteers help with library programming, run our book sales, raise money for library supplies and equipment, and work tirelessly for the good of our staff and patrons. They are always looking for new members with a little extra time who are interested in working with some great people.

If you are interested in joining the Friends group, please contact your preferred branch below for information on yearly membership dues. Detach this form and mail it along with your dues ($25: Patron, $5: Individual) to the appropriate address. Your help and participation would be greatly appreciated!

Name_________________________________________________________
Address_______________________________________________________
City_____________________________________State_______Zip________
Phone_________________________________________________________
Email__________________________________________________________