There are many reasons to step out of the box and read a new book that is outside your normal comfort zone. The opportunity to learn about new places, time periods, or events in history. Introducing yourself to new authors, genres and writing styles. Increasing your brain power, picking up a new skill, or changing your self-image.

December is Read a New Book Month. The Marion County Public Library System is overflowing with creative ways to get you started. All branches offer book clubs that challenge you to read titles and authors you may not have chosen on your own. The clubs generally run all year, taking a break only during December. New members are welcome, and books can be signed out a month in advance of the discussion dates to give ample time to complete each selection. Marion County Public Library offers a teen book club and allows participants to keep their monthly selections.

Another great way to get yourself started on a new book is the Secret Santa Reading Challenge going on during December at the Fairview Public Library. Books will be available to check out at the library, but will be wrapped and placed under the Christmas tree. You won't know what you have till you get it home and unwrap it. For each Secret Santa title you check out, read, and review, you will be entered into a drawing for a Visa gift card to be awarded on December 20th. The more you read, the better your chance of winning!

The library offers books, DVDs, CDs, and magazines with great ideas to make your holidays a warm, happy time for your family and friends.

Director’s Spotlight

In this second article of my film series, I would like to draw your attention to two visually stunning stories. The 2013 Oscar winning Life of Pi follows the physical struggle and spiritual journey of Pi Patel as he and his family set sail to America. When the ship sinks, Pi and his unlikely partner on a small lifeboat must compromise and learn to live with each other if they are going to survive. A winner for visual effects and cinematography, this movie is a beautiful depiction of the novel and brings the story to heart through the senses.

Another must see movie for a stunning adaptation of a noel is Anna Karenina. Tolstoy’s classic is brought to photographic life in the retelling of aristocrat Anna Karenina’s torrid affair that leads to life altering conclusions. Although the cinematic approach is dreamlike and sometimes confusing, the 2013 Oscar winner in Costume Design is well deserved, a feast for the eyes. Both movies take advantage of talented cinematographers, skilled designers, and artful directors. Although both films are adapted from novels, they offer a beautiful reflection of each story’s themes and insights that hint of reasons why reading them would be a great idea.

www.mcpls.org
Library Welcomes Artwork of Raymond Stoker and Andrew C. Lyons

During the Month of January, the Marion County Public Library exhibition room will be the site of selected works by local artist Raymond Stoker and architect Andrew C. Lyons. On loan from WVU’s MPA instructor Mr. Raymond Alvarez, the collection showcases the works of these native West Virginians.

Raymond Stoker moved to Fairmont in the 1920s, becoming a leading artistic figure, painter, and portrait photographer in the area. Andrew C. Lyons moved to Fairmont in 1892. After successfully opening his architecture firm, Lyons participated in the design of many buildings that still exist today. [http://tinyurl.com/kjrtzyz](http://tinyurl.com/kjrtzyz).

The exhibition will be available for viewing during regular library hours through the month of January, 2014.

The Marion County Public Library in Fairmont is interested in hosting Young Artist Exhibits. Schools and Preschools in the Marion County area with active art programs that would be interested in showing their works should contact Julie Mike at 304-366-1210, or via email at jmike@mcpls.org. All 2D artwork should be ready for hanging with wire or twine. No ‘alligator’ clips. Tables are available for sculptures, 3D mixed media works, etc. Display time for students’ work will be two weeks. Arrangements can be made for a Parent’s Night showing.

Any artists interested in displaying their work are encouraged to apply for display times and space.

Playaways

Audio

Carrie by Stephen King
Cross My Heart by James Patterson
Dark Witch by Nora Roberts
The Perfect Match by Kristan Higgins
Spellbound by Sylvia Day
The Supreme Macaroni Company by Adriana Trigiana

Views

Learn the Alphabet with Sesame Street
Rescue Bots Return of the Dinobot
Transformers Prime Speed Metal
Tumblebooks Fairy Tales

Bestsellers Expected in November

Print

The Bourne Retribution by Robert Ludlum
A Christmas Hope by Anne Perry
Command Authority by Tom Clancy
The Death Trade by Jack Higgins
Gods of Guilt by Michael Connelly
Innocence by Dean R. Koontz
Hazardous Duty by W.E.B. Griffin
Mars, Inc. by Ben Bova
Prince of Risk by Christopher Reich
Supervolcano by Harry Turtledove

Large Print

A Christmas Hope by Anne Perry
Christmas Bliss by Mary Kay Andrews
Dark Witch by Nora Roberts
Doctor Sleep by Stephen King
Just One Evil Act by Elizabeth George
Mirage by Clive Cussler
The Spymistress by Jennifer Chiaverini
Who Asked You? by Terry McMillan

DVDs

2 Guns
Elysium
Getaway
Jobs
The Lone Ranger
One Direction: This is Us
Percy Jackson
Sea of Monsters
The Smurfs 2
The Wolverine
The World’s End
The World of Narnia Comes to Life!
Join the Marion County Public Library Saturday, December 14th as we proudly host The Hampstead Stage Company's production of Return to Narnia: Prince Caspian. The Hampstead Stage Company is a nationally touring theater group for young audiences, and has been performing for almost 30 years. Children are invited to arrive about an hour early to decorate their own crowns to wear during the play. Seating is limited, so plan to attend this wonderful adaptation of classic children's literature. For more information, contact the library at 304-366-1210, or visit our website at www.mcpls.org.

Gone With the Wind Fabulous
This month Marion County Public Library debuts our new Teen Classic Film Club. Our inaugural film will be Gone With the Wind. Join us on December 21st at 10:00 a.m. to view this Civil War-era saga. Snacks will be served. Anyone ages 13-18 may attend. 12-year-olds may attend with parental consent.

Geektastic Fun
Teens can get their geek on at MCPL! On December 7th, the Teen Chess Club will meet from 10:00-2:00. Show off your nerd skills at our Teen Trivia Contest on December 16th at 4:30 p.m. Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

It’s Alive!
Give old stuffed animals new life by combining them. Since we weren’t able to make our hybrid stuffed animals in November, the Teen Crafternoon is trying again in December. Bring a few stuffed animals you’re willing to part with to the library on December 9th at 4:30 p.m. Sign-up is required!

Cookies and Comedy!
Adults 18-up are invited to sign up for Cookies and Comedy on Tuesday, December 17th. Bring in a batch of your favorite holiday cookies, and don’t forget the recipe to share, and enjoy good company and a hilarious holiday showing of National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation. The fun starts at 4:00, and space is limited. Call the library at 304-366-1210 or visit our website to sign up.

Holiday Closings
The Marion County Public Library will close at 3:00 p.m. Friday, December 6th for our annual holiday dinner. The Marion County Public Library System will be closed Dec. 24-26, close at 1:00 on Dec. 28, 3:00 on Dec. 31st, and will be closed Wednesday, January 1st, 2014.

www.mcpls.org
**Food Pantry Toy Drive**
The Mannington Food Pantry has placed a box at the library. Please drop off a new toy by December 11th and help ensure a child has a Merry Christmas. The 12 to 14 age range for boys and girls is in great need. We will also be accepting nonperishable Food for Fines this month. Minimum one can or box per $1.00 fine. All proceeds will go to the Mannington Food Pantry.

**Mannington Christmas Parade**
Look for us in the Mannington Christmas parade, December 7th at 6:00. The library staff will bring some of our favorite classic book characters to life.

**The Night Before Christmas Story-Time Special**
Are you excited about Christmas? Need to talk to Santa before the big day? Miss Melissa will have a special story-time December 14th at 11:00 a.m. Come in your Christmas PJ's, see Santa, and we'll put out a plate of cookies and milk or juice for Santa and all the children who attend.

**After-School Holiday Craft**
Join us after school on December 12th. We'll be crafting something special for you to gift this holiday season. Space is limited, so call the library at 304-986-2803 to sign up.

**Blackshere Pizza Parties**
We're celebrating Blackshere's 2nd grade class this month. Every time a second grader visits the library and checks out material in any format, we will add a designated pizza topping to our bulletin board. The Homeroom with the most toppings at the end of the month will win a pizza party. They will also spin the wheel for prizes on each visit.

**Monday Knitters**
Knitting isn't just hats and sweaters! The knitting group share fun patterns—toys, handbags, socks, etc. They knit all year long and welcome all from the novice to the advanced knitter. Join them on Mondays at the library starting at 4:30 p.m.
Marion County Public Library System

Calendar of Events

Marion County Public Library

- Dec 6: Library closes 3:00 p.m.
- Dec 7: Teen Chess Club Ages 12-18
- Dec 9: Teen Crafternoon. 12-18. Sign-up required
- Dec 11: DAC movie. Showing Despicable Me 2
- Dec 14: Adult Craft Class 4:00 p.m. Holiday Wreath. BYO bulbs. Sign-up required
- Dec 14: The Hampstead Stage Company presents Return to Narnia; Prince Caspian
- Dec 16: Teen Trivia Contest. Ages 12-18
- Dec 17: Cookies and Comedy movie. Christmas Vacation. Adults. Sign-up required
- Dec 19: Story Time Special
- Dec 21: Teen Classic Film Club. Showing Gone with the Wind. Ages 12-18. Sign-up required
- Dec 24-26, Jan 1: Library closed
- Dec 28 Lib. closes 1:00, Dec. 31 Lib. Closes 3:00

Fairview Branch

- Dec 2-20: Read S’more Books Coloring Workshop
- Dec 2-20: Sleigh Full of Goodies Guessing Game
- Dec 2: Toddler Time
- Dec 3: Family Fun Night
- Dec 3,10,17: Tuesday Nite Knitters
- Dec 4,5: Story Hour
- Dec 6: Food Pantry Drive Ends
- Dec 10: Christmas Program
- Dec 13: Overseas Serviceman Care Pkg ends
- Dec 17: Kids’ Movie, Arthur Christmas
- Dec 18: Library closes 3:00 p.m.
- Dec 19: Trivia Contest
- Dec 20: Teen Movie, Twilight
- Dec 24-26: Closed
- Dec 31: Library closes 3:00
- Jan 1: Library closed

Mannington Branch

- Dec 2,9,16,23,30: Toddler Time
- Dec 2,9,16,23,30: Knitting Group
- Dec 3,4,11,12,18,19: Story Time
- Dec 7: Mannington Christmas Parade
- Dec 11: Library closes 3:00 p.m.
- Dec 11: Food Pantry Toy Giveaway done
- Dec 12: After-School Holiday Gift craft
- Dec 14: Story-time Special
- Dec 19: Cover2Cover
- Dec 24-26: Library closed
- Dec 31: Library closes 3:00

New E-Books

Approaching Oblivion by Harlan Ellison
Big Ben by Peter MacDonald
Directed by Desire by June Jordan
Endless Road by John Lutz
Forever by Lori Foster
Glimpse by Steve Whibley
The Inquisitor’s Key by Jefferson Bass
Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer by Megan McDonald
Rose by Holly Webb
Showers in Season by Beverly LaHaye
Snatched by Karin Slaughter
Stink It Up by Megan McDonald
Switch by John Lutz
Undying by V. K. Forrest
Vicious by Kevin O’Brien

New E-Audio Books

Amy and Isabelle by Elizabeth Strout
Devil in the Grove by Gilbert King
The Eye of Minds by James Dashner
Heart of Ice by Lis Wiehl
Lighthouse Island by Paulette Jiles
The Longest Ride by Nicholas Sparks
The Rock Hole by Reavis Z. Wortham
Teardrop by Lauren Kate
True Colors by Jayne Ann Krentz
Unbreakable by Kami Garcia

New Audio Books

Bones in Her Pocket by Kathy Reichs
Brandon’s Bride by Lisa Gardner
A Christmas Hope by Anne Perry
Command Authority by Tom Clancy
The Death Trade by Jack Higgins
The Gods of Guilt by Michael Connelly
Hazardous Duty by W. E. B. Griffin
Hunter by Karen Roberts
Innocent Blood by James Rollins
Robert Ludlum’s by Eric Van Lustbader
The Supreme Macaroni Company by Adriana Trigiana
Hello All!

My goodness, what a surprise! My two nephews, Manny from Mannington and Farris from Fairview, surprised me for the holidays. I’m so thrilled to introduce you to these dear family members. They are both lovely spirited lads whom you’ll adore as much as I do. They plan on sticking around and helping Aunt Marion at the libraries.

Well, the holiday season is finally upon us. As always, your library is here to help you with all your holiday needs. Cooking and baking are popular tasks made easier with our variety of helpful cookbooks. Decorations, holiday stories, music, and much more is all available at your local library and can help make your holidays brighter!

From my just introduced family and me, to our beloved library families everywhere, we wish you a happy holiday season, and we look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Marion LiBearian, the Town Librarian

Marion LiBearian
The Town Librarian
Says...

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Marion LiBearian, the Town Librarian

Fairmont

Book It! will be taking a holiday in December. We will meet on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 to discuss The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver.

Book It! is excepting new members. Those interested can contact Julie at 304-366-1210 for more information.

The Awesome Readers’ Club will meet December 18th, 4:30 p.m. to discuss Hold Still by Nina LaCour.

In the wake of her best friend Ingrid’s suicide, Caitlin is left alone, struggling to find hope and answers. When she finds the journal Ingrid left behind for her, she begins a journey of understanding and broadening her horizons that leads her to new friendships and first love. Nina LaCour brings the changing seasons of Caitlin’s first year without Ingrid to life with emotion, honesty, and captivating writing.

ARC is open to teens in grades 6-12. If you are interested in joining, please contact Michelle at 304-366-1210.

Fairview

Page Turners and Speaking of Books will be taking a holiday this month. They will resume in January, 2014. Check back in January for dates, times, and titles, call the library at 304-449-1021, or visit us at www.mcpls.org. See you next year!

Mannington

Cover 2 Cover will meet Thursday, December 19th at 1:30 to discuss Fried Green Tomatoes by Fannie Flagg.

Folksy and fresh, endearing and affecting, Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistlestop Café is the now-classic novel of two women in the 1980s; of gray-headed Mrs. Threadgoode telling her life story to Evelyn, who is in the sad slump of middle age. The tale she tells is also of two women—of the irrepressibly dare devilish tomboy Idgie and her friend Ruth who, back in the thirties, ran a little place in Whistle Stop, Alabama, a Southern kind of Care Woebe-gone offering good barbecue and good coffee and all kinds of love and laughter, even an occasional murder. And as the past unfolds, the present, for Evelyn and for us all, will never be quite the same again...~Amazon
Surprise, Aunt Marion

It's my nephews Manny and Farris!
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_________________________________________________________