

# Reimagine Your Library

The look of the main library continues to change at a rapid pace. Glass has been installed throughout the building and much of the basic interior construction has been completed.

The new building will feature a new café, technology center, and a first for the state – a Tool Library, where patrons can check out everything from hammers to leaf blowers. The second floor will house library administration, while the third floor will be devoted to the reference library as well as public meeting rooms and study areas. The expanded Children's Department shifts to the 4th floor in a new open, flowing layout. New elevators will be installed in the coming weeks.

On the exterior, construction crews are now focused on the plaza, which will feature a new fountain and improved walkways. Glass work is being completed on the Library's two new wings and much of the exterior work should be finished by the end of summer.

Construction on the iconic building is expected to be completed in early December. Staff will then spend up to two months training, filling the library with its collection, and preparing for the grand opening. The Main Library should reopen to the public in February 2022.

You can take a peek at the latest photos by visiting the Reimagine Your Library website at <https://reimagineyourlibrary.com/watch-us-grow/>



Friends,

Included in this newsletter is the Friends annual report for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. In the last year, the Friends provided over \$22,000 in funding for projects, programs and events that were not covered by the KCPL budget. The Friends also raised more than \$21,000 at our annual Tisket fundraiser, which was held in a new, entirely virtual format. Holding the event digitally expanded our outreach and we welcomed many new Friends to the Tisket experience.

Looking forward to the 2021-2022 fiscal year, we are excited to see the reimagined Main Library come to completion, as well as the new library vending services in Clendenin and remodeled elevator in St. Albans. We hope to see many of you at the West Virginia Book Festival in October, and at other events in-person and online.

Finally, congratulations to Ellie Frazier, current liaison to the Friends. Ellie has been promoted from Marketing Assistant to Marketing Coordinator. Ellie brings a wealth of experience to her new role, which will focus on social media messaging, writing, editing, and advertising. Until her position is filled, the Marketing team will all work together to continue assisting the Friends.

## A Great Library Needs Great Friends

Welcome to our new and returning members!

Cookie Glasser  
Shelley Kanner  
Patterson Lyles  
Julian Martin  
Larry L. Rowe

Friends of The Library Foundation of Kanawha County, Inc.

Debbie Duvall - Chair  
Susan Watkins - Vice Chair  
Karen Lukens - Secretary



## Meet the Staff

### Nancy Allen; Collection Specialist Librarian KCPL Staff Member since autumn, 2008

#### What does a Collection Specialist Librarian do?

I select library material for KCPL and work with analytical data products to make sure we are selecting material that meets patrons' needs. We let patrons guide us in our selecting, rather than only selecting materials using reviews. I am part of the Technical Services Department.

#### When not working at a library, what do you like to do?

I have several pets, so I enjoy spending time with them as well as fostering other animals for an animal rescue. I have been a quad skater since 2013, and retired from a roller derby team in 2016. I still enjoy skating recreationally.

#### What is your favorite book, movie or recording?

My favorite authors are Stephen King and Neil Gaiman. I also read a lot of nonfiction, especially medieval history.

#### What is your favorite part about being a librarian?

I love being in public service because you know you are helping people. That's important to me, to feel like I am making a difference in people's lives. The personal connections you make as a librarian are wonderful. When I worked at the St. Albans branch library, I once helped a new US citizen who had emigrated from Korea learn how she could register to vote. Interactions like that are so special.

### Andrew Stanley; Teen Services Librarian KCPL Staff Member since 2015

**What do you want to tell everyone that they may not know about the library?**  
We don't judge you on your fines or your late books. We also enjoy helping you find new titles to read.

**When not working at a library, what do you like to do?**  
Besides reading, I enjoy sculpting, playing video games, and playing with my 2 boys.

**What is your favorite book, movie or recording?**  
My favorite book is *The Way of Kings* by Brandon Sanderson. My favorite movie is *Fight Club*, and my favorite music artist is Evanescence.

**What is your favorite part about being a librarian?**  
I love being able to make people as excited about the library as I am. I enjoy showing people that reading is fun and exciting, and helping them learn new things, new skills, and learning about all our services we offer.

**It's easy to be a Friend! If you'd like to help, contact us at:**

The Library Foundation of Kanawha County, Inc.  
Attention: Marketing & Development  
123 Capitol Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301  
304-343-4646 ext. 1283 • [www.kanawhalibrary.org](http://www.kanawhalibrary.org)

## West Virginia Book Festival



After a hiatus due to COVID-19, the West Virginia Book Festival returns on October 23 & 24 at the Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center.

Featured authors include two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Colson Whitehead, children's author Jon Scieszka, novelist and musician Josh Malerman, Pulitzer Prize winning investigative reporter and author Eric Eyre, award-winning novelist Denise Giardina, and West Virginia native and author Homer Hickam.

The used book sale will return with great deals on thousands of books, movies, music CDs and more! Numerous writing workshops will be on offer, and once again the Marketplace will be filled with book sellers, publishers, literary vendors, and activities for children in the Word Play section.

The Friends will have a table at the Festival. Look for our brand-new Friends banner to mark our location. Stop by to say hello and see what we have on offer! The highly successful membership drive at the 2019 Festival doubled our members, so we are looking forward to making many new Friends again this year!



Long time Friends of The Library member Patricia "Tish" Lawson and her husband Cyron were killed in a traffic accident on June 1st. Tish had been a very active member of the Friends and the Steering Committee for many years. Condolences to her family and friends. Tish will be greatly missed.

*(Tish Lawson is pictured second from right)*