

# Reimagine Your Library

The Reimagine Your Library project is winding down. Finishing touches, such as carpet installation and painting, are being made to the public floors, while much of the interior construction attention is now focused on staff areas on the lower level and top floor.

Work crews are concentrating their exterior work on the library's Capital Street Plaza. New granite steps and walkways have been installed and the plaza's new fountain is beginning to take shape.

Construction is expected to be completed by mid-December, and that will signal the start of three months of hectic activity for library staff. Staff members will spend that time filling the new library with books, shelving, furniture, new technology, and all of the items that make the library a community gathering place.

Plans are currently underway for a grand re-opening in early April 2022.

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



## November 2021 Newsletter



Please join us in wishing Assistant Director April Wallace well as she returns home to North Carolina. Through her years at KCPL, she helped guide the library system through several periods of transition including Covid-19 and the Main Library renovation project.

We would like to take this opportunity to also welcome Main Library Public Services Manager Sarah Mitchell to her new role as Assistant Director. We look forward to continuing working closely with Sarah on projects and programs throughout the library system.



## A Great Library Needs Great Friends

If you would 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.kcpls.org](http://www.kcpls.org)

Friends of The Library Foundation of Kanawha County, Inc.

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





## Meet the Staff

**Cathy Mason; Sissonville Branch Manager**  
KCPL Staff Member for 5 years

**What do you want to tell everyone that they may not know about the library?**  
We'll do whatever we can to answer a question. We research or walk a patron through the process of research, and if we cannot find an answer, we try sending them to another librarian who may be better suited to answer their question.

**When not working at a library, what do you like to do?**  
I like to play with my animals and crochet. My sister and I have 11 pets that we care for deeply. I especially enjoy crocheting stuffed animals and dolls.

**What is your favorite book, movie or recording?**  
One of my favorite books has always been *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine. The movie was good, but the book is so much better!

**What is your favorite part about being a librarian?**  
My favorite part of being a librarian is working with the public. During the pandemic, I've realized how much I miss seeing my co-workers and our patrons. I love being able to suggest new materials to others too.

**Brittany Addis; Cross Lanes Branch Manager**  
KCPL Staff Member since 2018

**What do you want to tell everyone that they may not know about the library?**  
I think the pandemic has shown us all just how important human connection is. It is my hope that as we are able to once again safely gather, more people will take advantage of the programs and activities we offer and discover how libraries can be places of community and connection, not just repositories for books and movies.

**When not working at a library, what do you like to do?**  
I enjoy cooking and arts & crafts of all kinds. I've also recently gotten very into jigsaw puzzles and am planning my first real garden this year.

**What is your favorite book, movie or recording?**  
*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie.

**What is your favorite part about being a librarian?**  
Every day is different! The wants and needs of our patrons are continuously changing. I love the challenge of developing programs and implementing new technologies to serve our communities in creative ways.

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

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## Supporting Kanawha County Kids

The Friends provide funding for many programs and services for children in Kanawha County and beyond.

### StoryWalk®

A StoryWalk® is a fun, educational activity that places a large print children's story along a popular walking route in the community. KCPL's first StoryWalk® was offered in April 2021 at a St. Albans City Park event. Since then, they were offered at Dunbar's Spring Festival, Clendenin's Community Festival, and FestivFall along the Carriage Trail.



Families can spend time enjoying West Virginia's beautiful scenery while they walk together and read. The Friends recently approved funding several additional StoryWalks® so that the library can offer new stories at additional locations.



### Holiday Drive-Thru

On December 4, KCPL will host a Holiday Drive-Thru event in partnership with the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center. Families can drive through and see some of their favorite characters. Children in each vehicle will receive goody bags with crafts and other fun surprises. The Friends are providing funding to help fill these bags with holiday cheer.