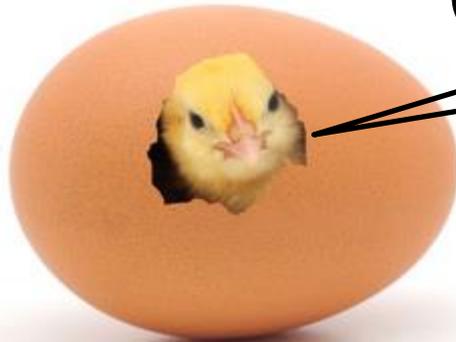


What's New A Tri-County View

Tricks or Treats?



Compiled by:

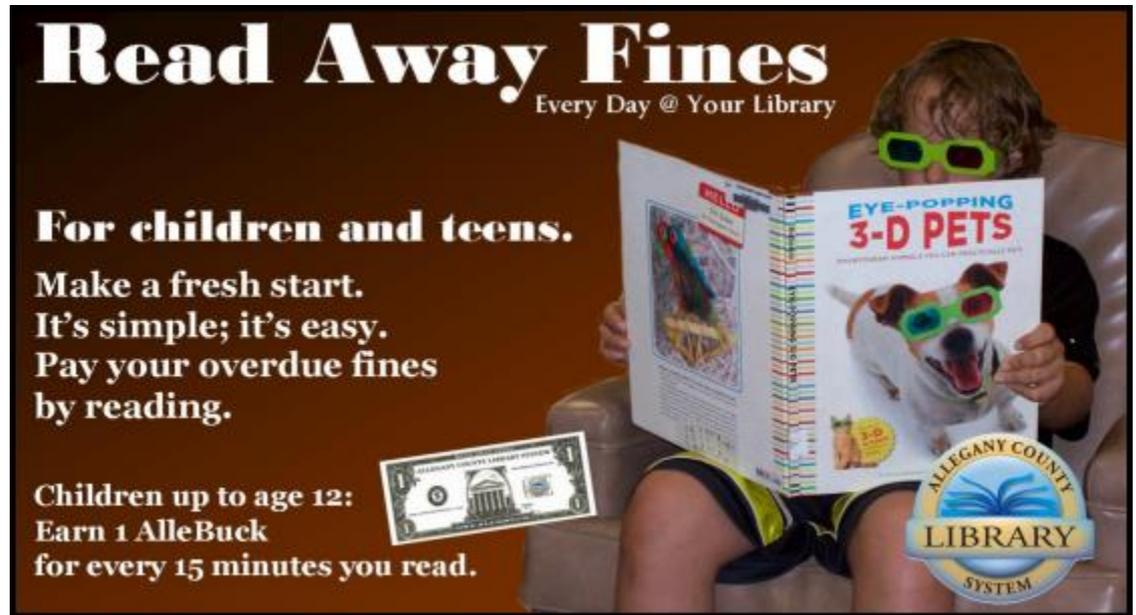
Jill Craig, Darlene Reimond, & Julie Zamostny with help from Dave Hanlin, Lisa McKenney, Joe Thompson, Bonnie Winters, & Pat Wishard.

Allegheny County Library System

On October 1st, Allegheny County Library System started a program for kids and teens to read away their fines by earning AlleBucks. Children aged 0-12 years can earn \$1.00 for every 15 minutes they read, and Teens 13-17 years can earn \$1.00 for reading 30 minutes independently OR \$1.00 for every 15 minutes they read to a child.

Fines and fees are not meant to punish library patrons. Library materials belong to everyone in the community, and fines encourage people to bring materials back on time for others to use. However, we understand that everyone makes mistakes, and it is easy to accrue fines. We all get them too, right?

We also understand that many children and teens lack the resources to pay their fines. This program gives them the opportunity to take responsibility to restore their borrowing privileges. Now children and teens can have a good time reading for themselves in exchange for AlleBucks to pay their fines.



Read Away Fines
Every Day @ Your Library

For children and teens.
Make a fresh start.
It's simple; it's easy.
Pay your overdue fines
by reading.

Children up to age 12:
Earn 1 AlleBuck
for every 15 minutes you read.



Note: The first week AlleBucks debuted, ACLS readers earned a total of \$22.00 to put toward their fines!



The Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County

The first STEM Kids program at the Oakland Library - Angry Birds Style – was a big hit. The kids used Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math to complete a variety of tasks, including engineering a safe capsule for an egg that was then dropped from a ladder in the library (no eggs were harmed!), designing a building (complete with green pigs) for the opposing team to knock down, and calculating the best angles to launch a ball that would destroy the buildings. The next STEM Kids program – Energy Everywhere – meets on Wednesday, October 23rd.

We had a great turnout of 24 people for our September program with Kerry George, retired Federal Coal Mine Inspector and author of *Black Damp Century*. Kerry spoke about the turbulent history of mining and union activity in the 20th century, citing events in Western Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio. He noted how these events affected him and other people in the industry, and how he wanted his children to know about what happened during these times.



STEM Programming, Angry Birds Style



Kerry George (far right), retired Federal Coal Mine Inspector

Washington County Free Library

On October 4th, Washington County Free Library unveiled a new library logo. This logo represents the WCFL strategic plan in only four words “Where People & Possibilities Meet”. The graphic is open to a range of interpretations such as people reading, people looking at computers, or four points of the county focused on the new library in downtown Hagerstown. The logo was chosen overwhelming by the library board of trustees as the best from the original 4 designs considered. The library is looking to the future with modern symbolism that represents the newest in visual representation.



**WASHINGTON COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY**

Where People & Possibilities Meet

View Dave Hanlin's unveiling of the logo here:

<http://youtu.be/RqXDqkG5qj0>

Washington County Free Library celebrated the grand opening of the Alice Virginia and David W. Fletcher branch on October 5th. The new library will have 163,237 books and 12,538 DVDs and Blu-rays with over 2,000 yards of shelving. The new library will feature classrooms, study rooms, a computer lab and program rooms. 40 public access computers will also be available. The new branch is an outstanding 21st century educational resource and a Great Good Place for the community it serves.



View the grand opening video here:

<http://youtu.be/5isFQMOHUL4>

Western MD Regional Library

There are no tricks when it comes to the Western Maryland Regional Library's Service Enhancement Grants – it's all about the treats! This year the Western Maryland Regional Library continues to support Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties' public libraries through Service Enhancement Grants. Each library system received \$34,000 for Fiscal Year 2014 (July 2013 – June 2014) and here's a couple of ways our funding has helped them enhance their services:

The [Allegany County Library System](#) has recently put into action their **Staffing Bootstraps Pilot** which allows for an additional 18 hour a week position at each library facility, replacing the "subs" model and allowing more consistent staffing at each location.

The [Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County](#) will expand their circulating **Educational Toy Collection** and they will purchase and implement the use of tablets, iPads, and smartphones as part of their **Cutting Edge Tech Project**.

The [Washington County Free Library](#) recently purchased four [InFocus Mondopads](#) for the new library in Hagerstown which allows for enhanced web conferencing and virtual group collaboration. In a nice return-of-favor, one of these devices is now located in the Western Maryland Regional Library's conference room and is available for regional use.

