

Lonesome Pine Regional Library

JANUARY-MARCH 2008

LIBRARY UPDATE

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Celebrating *The Big Read* and *The Maltese Falcon*

The National Endowment of the Arts announced that Lonesome Pine Regional Library is one of 127 libraries, municipalities, and arts, culture, higher education, and science organizations to receive a grant to host a Big Read celebration of one of 16 classic novels from January-June 2008. The NEA launched the Big Read nationally in 2007 in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. Lonesome Pine Regional Library is honored and excited to bring all of the four county and one city communities together through the area's first region-wide community read. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

Currently, our confirmed partners include the University of Virginia's College at Wise, Mountain Empire Community College, Regional Adult Education Program of Lee, Scott, Wise and City of Norton Public Schools, Appalachian Children's Theatre, Norton City Schools, and Wise, Dickenson, Lee, and Scott County Public Schools.



"We have partnered with the most exceptional organizations in our area to present fun, quality programming, and most importantly – to promote the pleasure of reading."

The events for Lonesome Pine begin with a late-March kickoff as the residents of southwest Virginia will celebrate *The Maltese Falcon* as the region's first "one book, one region" literary event. "From our opening day of readings on the courthouse steps and a study of "Who is Dashiell Hammett?" this classic work will come to life as we present a musical ballad, "Deception, Broken Hearts, and Murder," a mystery dinner theatre production by Appalachian Children's Theatre, art shows, book discussions, film noir series, scavenger hunts, and detective/forensic science programs. Activities will culminate in April with a 1920's-themed library gala for all ages. *The Big Read* is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest.



The Big Read Events — Mark Your Calendars

March 26, 11:00— *Who is Dashiell Hammett?* Goodloe Center, Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap

Dr. Richard Layman presents a lively forum on the works of Dashiell Hammett.

March 26, 2:30— *Readings on the Courthouse Steps.* Courthouses in Wise, Dickenson, Lee and Scott Counties.

Dramatic readings of *The Maltese Falcon*

March 28, 1:00— *Women's Roles in Hammett's Novels.* Chapel of All Faiths, University of Virginia's College at Wise, Wise

Celebrate Women's History Month with Hammett

April 19, 6:00— *Mystery Dinner Theatre.* Hotel Norton, 798 Park Avenue, Norton

Includes Sam Spade and Ruth Wonderly look-a-like Contest. \$20 ticketed event - call 328-8325.



Lonesome Pine reads *The Maltese Falcon*. Visit our website or www.neabigread.org for information on more fun events.

Start Here—Go Anywhere!



Playaways – the New Way to Listen at Your Public Library

Lonesome Pine Regional Library is excited to introduce a new format for your listening pleasure – the playaway – a self-playing digital audio book. The self-contained Playaway device is an audio player and audio book all in one. There's no longer a need to carry around a cumbersome collection of cassettes or CD's. The entire book is already loaded on the durable Playaway unit, which is about half the size of a deck of cards.

Each Playaway is packaged with a lanyard and a standard AAA battery to allow for immediate listening.

You can use your own earbuds or purchase them at a nominal cost.



Using clearly marked buttons, Playaway gives listeners the option of placing digital bookmarks and controlling the speed of a narrator's voice, all while easily moving both forward and back through audiobook selections that can range from six to twenty-four hours. Additionally, the library will have adaptors available for listening in your car.

From classic titles such as, Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* to contemporary authors Baldacci and Grisham, to the hilarious children's story, *The Cat Ate My Gymsuit*, readers of all ages will enjoy hearing fiction and non-fiction favorites. Just pick up your playaway at any of our libraries and listen happily ever after!

Community Effort Coming Together in Haysi

A true community effort is coming together for Haysi Public Library. Work to relocate the library in a newly-renovated, more spacious building of its own is moving forward.

Thanks to the Haysi Community Clinic Board, the former community clinic building has been donated to house a new library. Its 3,500-square-foot size will triple the space of the current facility. Thanks to fundraising efforts and the earnest work of dedicated individuals, work to renovate the building is slowly but surely progressing.

At this time, work to finish the library is in full swing as a result of invaluable assistance provided by students from the Flatwoods Job Corps Center. Students from the Center are currently hard at work finishing the interior of the building, putting in ceilings, drywall, plaster, and painting. Next the library will put in floor coverings, furnishings, equipment and will ready the building for opening day.

It's been a long effort and it has been a great effort in which the whole community has come together to help. We look forward to celebrating the grand opening of the new Haysi Community Library in the coming year.



Students from Flatwoods Job Corps Center measuring for sheetrock—with their help walls are going up quickly!

Lonesome Pine Regional Library & Books-by-Mail
124 Library Road, SW
Wise, Virginia
276-328-8325

Serving Wise County & City of Norton:
Wise County Public Library, Wise
C. Bascom Slemple Memorial Library, Big Stone Gap
Coeburn Community Library, Coeburn
J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library, St. Paul

Serving Dickenson County:
Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library, Clintwood
Haysi Public Library, Haysi

Serving Lee County:
Lee County Public Library, Pennington Gap
Rose Hill Community Library, Rose Hill

Serving Scott County
Scott County Public Library, Gate City

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