

Lonesome Pine Regional Library

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LIBRARY UPDATE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation—Opportunity Online Grant

Lonesome Pine Regional Library is pleased to announce that it will receive a matching grant in the amount of \$59,800 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help improve and sustain free, quality access to computers. The Opportunity Online Grant will provide computer hardware upgrades in libraries that are at risk of having outdated technology. The branches of Lonesome Pine that have been selected to receive upgraded technology include: C. Bascom Slemp Memorial Library in Big Stone Gap; Lee County Public Library in Pennington Gap; Haysi Community Library; Scott County Public Library in Gate City; and Wise County Public Library, the Headquarters library located in Wise.

Community members across our region use computers at Lonesome Pine's libraries to improve their education, find economic opportunities, access e-government services, and contribute to their individual communities, resulting in a stronger region for all citizens. Director, Amy Bond explains that computers not only provide access to information, but they are vital communication tools for linking families and friends together. For example, a library customer in Pennington Gap found the Internet to be an invaluable resource for communicating work orders to her employer. But, she discovered an even more important reason for using the library's computers — she was able to receive

newsletters and other communications from her son's military commanding officer on a regular basis. She was even able to see a digital photo of her son in a Humvee as his company



Technology helps you Start Here—Go Anywhere!

crossed the Iraqi desert. It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words, and in this case the old adage is very true. The library provided a way for this mother to experience reassurance in the midst of a military conflict. The Board and staff of Lonesome Pine Regional library could not be more pleased to be one of the nation's library systems that can bring such knowledge and joy to our communities. Join us in thanking the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for continuing to bring technology to Southwest Virginia.

The Big Read—Year Two Celebration of My Ántonia



Lonesome Pine Regional Library has received its second grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host The Big Read. *My Ántonia* by Virginia-born author, Willa Cather, is the selected title. The library is honored and excited to bring all of the four county and one city communities together through the area's second region-wide community read.

Programming themes, which take place during April and May 2009, will include: celebrations of Virginia authors; Appalachian and International storytelling; the Melting Pot of Southwest Virginia; Back to our Roots; Friendships Long Remembered; and Home Sweet Home. To bring these themes alive, we have once again partnered with the most exceptional organizations in our area to present fun, quality programming, and most importantly — the joy of reading — to the region. Currently, our confirmed partners include the University of Virginia's College at Wise; Mountain Empire Community College; Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park; Lonesome Pine Office on Youth; Pro-Art Association; and the Regional Adult Education Program.

The latest Big Read grantees represent 46 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. To date, the NEA has given more than 500 grants to support local Big Read projects. "Everything the NEA does we do in partnership. I am delighted

to announce our 208 new partners in The Big Read. Some are new to the program, some are returning, but all of them have answered the call to action to get our country reading again," said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.



The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. Support for The Big Read is provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Transportation for The Big Read is provided by Ford. For more information about The Big Read, visit www.neabigread.org.

Start Here—Go Anywhere!



Last Year, You...

- **Joined** the library — 3,533 new readers brought active membership to 69,636.
- **Visited** the library 447,625 times, an average of 1,226 visitors per day and 7 visits per person.
- **Borrowed** 679,143 items, averaging 10 items per person.
- **Used** the library collection of 606,725 items.
- **Logged** over 114,634 hours of in-house computer time and **visited** our website 410,808 times.
- **Attended** 2,335 informational & cultural programs. 37,442 people participated.
- **Gathered** in the library's meeting rooms. Civic groups met a total of 732 times.

City and Town Councils, and an involved community that believes libraries are important, we had another successful year. Thank you for making Lonesome Pine Regional Library the best place to discover, to learn, to imagine, to smile.



Fiscal Year 2008 was an exciting year filled with challenges, growth and accomplishments. Area residents continued to demonstrate their interest in, and support of, the library. Due to the dedicated staff, a committed Library Board, an active Friends of the Library, supportive Boards of Supervisors,

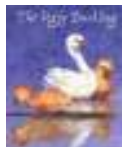
We the People Bookshelf—Created Equal

Eight branches of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library system have been selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities to receive the 2008 *We The People Bookshelf - Created Equal*. Libraries in Wise, Big Stone Gap, St. Paul, Clintwood, Haysi, Pennington Gap, Rose Hill, and Gate City have received a collection of 17 hard cover copies of classic young people's books reflecting this year's theme -- "Created Equal." In addition, each of those libraries received four Spanish translation titles and one "History in a Box" kit featuring the life of Abraham Lincoln.

The *We the People Bookshelf* is an initiative to increase awareness of American history and heritage. This program, presented by NEH, in cooperation with the American Library Association, encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American History. The 2008 Bookshelf enables younger readers to examine the meaning of "Created Equal" from many different perspectives. This theme will be explored in a variety of programs tailored for each age group in the individual libraries. Following is a list of titles:

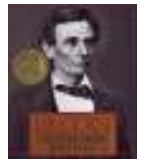
Kindergarten to Grade 3

The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen
The Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln
Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco



Grades 4 to 6

Saturnalia by Paul Fleischman
Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence by Russell Freedman
Lincoln: A Photobiography by Russell Freedman
Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom by Virginia Hamilton
Lyddie by Katherine Paterson



Grades 7 to 8

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis
Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott by Russell Freedman
Abraham Lincoln the Writer: A Treasury of His Greatest Speeches and Letters ed. by Harold Holzer
Breaking Through by Francisco Jiménez

Grades 9 to 12

Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution by Natalie S. Bober
That All People May Be One People, Send Rain to Wash the Face of the Earth by Nez Perce Chief Joseph
Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
Lincoln's Virtues: An Ethical Biography by William Lee Miller
Amistad: A Novel by David Pesci

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 Slemper 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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