

Library Commission Has the Resources You Need!

Contributed by Lori FitzGerald and Karen Goff of the West Virginia Library Commission.

You have questions? Well, we have the answers! Whether you contact us by telephone, by e-mail, or in person, the West Virginia Library Commission's Reference Library, located in the Cultural Center, is here for all your research and entertainment needs.

Online databases are important tools in the Reference Library's box of information resources. A state-wide subscription with EBSCO Publishing provides visitors to the Reference Library, and to public libraries throughout the State, access to full text databases designed to meet their reference and information needs. The Reference staff can introduce you to the service. They can also show you how to gain remote access to the EBSCO databases from home or other appropriate locations.



The Library at the State Cultural Center maintains a comfortable, quiet lounge area for reading, and individual study carrels for privacy. (Photo courtesy of Lori FitzGerald)

Convenient and reliable, the EBSCO databases allow users many options. They provide Web-based content covering a variety of subjects including general research topics, business information and biographies, medical and nursing information, consumer health topics, and more. Content is drawn from the highest quality full text periodicals, reference books, biographies, primary source documents, newspapers, and other sources.

EBSCO databases can be searched as a group or individually, depending on the type of information needed. Below are descriptions of all the databases included in the West Virginia Library Commission subscription.

A Hearty Thank You!
TO THE
**GENERAL SERVICES
& DIVISION OF
HIGHWAYS STAFFS**

We received a number calls from employees around the State asking us to say a special "Thank You!" to the General Services and Highways staffs for their hard work and diligence at removing the snow and ice, and for doing their best to keep up with things during our recent winter storms!

Great Job!

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Searchasaurus[®] —

- 📖 Designed for young researchers and features a colorful graphic interface

The Reference Library also provides access to the *West Virginia Newstand*, a full-text of the two Charleston dailies online. *Books In Print Online* was added to assist with acquisitions and patron needs. *Reference USA* from INFOUSA helps staff provide residential and business addresses/telephone numbers.

Although the Reference library offers patrons the latest in technology and service, the basic library services are still a very essential part of the daily circulation.

IS&C I-Learning Classroom Now Available

Information contributed by Marilyn Padon of IS&C.

March 3, 2003 marks opening day for the Information Services & Communications Technology Learning Center's (TLC) exciting new online class-room called The I-Learning Classroom. This program opens its virtual doors to students wanting to learn the features of the Microsoft XP Suite and offer online courses in a new, self-study internet classroom. Courses offered include Access, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Word.

I-Learning will provide the opportunity for an entire course of study for each application at the comfort of your own desk and at times you choose. The I-Learning courses can also be combined with instructor-led training that is currently conducted at the TLC. Cost per course is \$75 and students are given 60 days to complete each one taken.

For more information, visit the TLC website at intranet.state.wv.us/train or call Mary Cummings at 558-6384.

In addition to our book collection, patrons can select audio books on cassettes and CD's. The audiobook CD collection is expected to grow, so suggestions are welcome.

The movie collection has expanded to include DVD's as well as VHS tapes. Classics to last year's award winners make up an eclectic collection. Look to us for help with job advancement or career enhancement, and check out our Civil Service study guides and Government documents. Hone your test-taking skills with LearningExpress Library online.

Build your stock portfolio with information from Value-line, Barrons and Weiss Ratings Guide. Patrons who prefer periodicals will find our 350+ subscriptions to all genres satisfying. As always, the library maintains a comfortable, quiet lounge area for reading and individual study carrels for privacy.

The best way to get started on your search for answers is to pay a visit to the WVLC Reference Library during your lunch hour. Develop an appetite for books and information and it will broaden your mind, not your waistline. Library Staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. to assist and serve you. Stop by soon!

Did You Know That ...

STORM SEASON IS APPROACHING!

Lightning is the second deadliest weather killer in the U.S., averaging 73 deaths per year. Florida has the highest incidence in the U.S., while Zimbabwe has the highest number worldwide.

When lightning is a threat, stay indoors and don't use electrical appliances, especially the telephone.

If you're caught outside, keep a safe distance from tall objects and stay lower than anything nearby. What's a safe distance from a tree? Twice its height.

BEP Communications Office Excels

Contributed by John Womack of the Bureau of Employment Programs.

Eleven publications produced by the Communications Office of the Bureau of Employment Programs, part of the Bureau's Customer Services and Communications Division, won a total of 18 awards in four regional and national communications contests held during 2002. According to Janet Howard, Director of the Customer Services and Communications Division, "These awards show that even with limited budgets, State government professionals working together in a supportive environment can produce work every bit as good as that produced in the private sector."

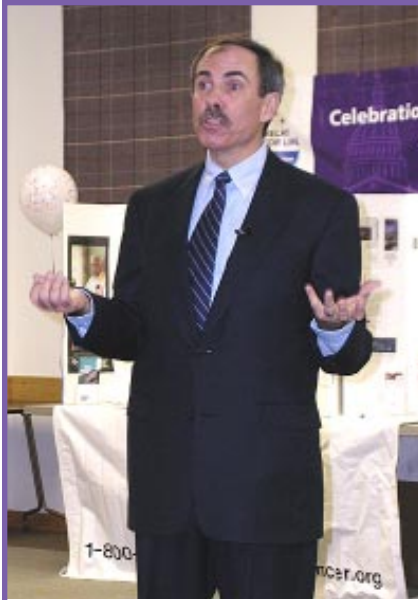
The Employment Programs Unit was most successful in the regional Round-Up Awards conducted by the East Central District of the Public Relations Society of America. The East Central District is comprised of all PRSA chapters in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia with the awards program open to all public relations professionals practicing in those areas. Members of the the Memphis, TN PRSA served as judges.

BEP professionals took first place honors for a newspaper ad and a series of posters supporting the efforts of the Workers' Compensation Division's Safety and Loss Control Unit and for a videotape featuring Governor Bob Wise that was produced for a national conference of the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appellate Boards. They took second place/honorable mention awards for a brochure used by the Employment Service during the Union Carbide/Dow Chemical merger, *News&Views online*, the Bureau's innovative online employee newsletter, the Bureau's 2001 Annual Report, and for a second safety campaign, *America's Energy Future Wears A Proud West Virginia Red Hat*, targeted toward new coal miners.

During the 2002 Crystal Awards contest, conducted by the West Virginia PRSA chapter, the Communications office won first place awards for the NAUIAB video, *News&Views online*, and for *The Pulse*, a workers' compensation newsletter for the health care community. A second place/honorable mention was awarded to *Red Hat Campaign*. The Crystal Awards were judged by members of the Chattanooga, TN PRSA chapter.

In an international contest open to American and Canadian members of the American Association of State Compensation Insurance Funds, and limited to Workers' Compensation-oriented materials, the BEP Office of Communications took a second place award for Excellence in Writing and third place awards for Internal Newsletters and Print Advertising.

Earlier in the year they won a first, two seconds, and a third place in the National Communicators Awards' Print Media Competition. In that contest the Bureau's *2001 Annual Report* won first place honors, the Workers' Compensation website and a print ad for Employment Services appearing in the West Virginia and Marshall Universities campus directories won second place awards and the NAUIAB video won a third place award.



ABOVE: Governor Bob Wise addresses cancer advocates and survivors during an event sponsored by the American Cancer Society on February 6. Wise spoke in detail about the importance of passing the cigarette tax this legislative session.

BELOW: Wise, a 3-year cancer survivor himself, is the first to be "pinned" during the event's recognition and pinning ceremony.



Is anyone in your household dependent on the use of in-home medical equipment such as oxygen, a nebulizer, or a kidney dialysis machine? If so, take time to notify your electric company so that appropriate action can be taken in the event of a power outage.

DNR Wants You to

'Become an Outdoors-Woman!'

Contributed by Elizabeth Gallaher of the Division of Natural Resources.

The Division of Natural Resources (DNR) sponsors The WV Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) Program to encourage women to participate in outdoor activities.

The BOW Program is looking for women who are at least 18 years old and interested in improving on an existing skill, learning a new skill, and/or looking for the camaraderie of others with the same interests. Although the program encourages the participation of women, men are welcome also.

The DNR hosts two workshops a year for hands-on training in an atmosphere where participants can have fun while learning new skills. Each person participates in four half-day courses along with special activities each night. For 2003, the workshop will be held as follows:

Spring Workshop *North Bend State Park* *April 11-13*
Fall Workshop *Watoga State Park* *September 12-14*

A registration fee of \$120 includes all food and lodging, as well as any needed equipment. Any interested in participating can contact:

Elizabeth Gallaher
WV BOW Program - WVDNR, Wildlife Resources
Building 3, Room 842
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Phone: 304/558-2771
E-mail: egallaher@dnr.state.wv.us



Also ...

Interested in Teaching Outdoor Skills?

Do you have a passion for the outdoors, and would you like to share your interests with energetic people? If so, maybe you should consider becoming a WV BOW Program Step Outside® instructor. All classes are team taught, so those new to the program are paired with veteran BOW instructors. If interested, contact Elizabeth Gallaher at the information provided above.

On March 10, 2003, the Division of Personnel (DOP) will implement a new examination for the classes of Social Worker 1-2-3 and Social Service Worker 1-2-3. The same examination will be used for all six job classes. Applicants already on these registers will be notified that they must retest after March 10, and test monitors around the State will advise candidates that if they take the current test, they also will need to retest after March 10. The DOP stopped using the current examinations on February 24, 2003.



NOTE: This change does NOT apply to candidates who were exempted from testing due to their possession of a BSW or MSW Degree or a current, non-temporary WV Social Work License.

DOP to Implement New Social Worker/Social Service Worker Exam

Pencil In ...




The National Council on Aging (NCOA) has a website where **older Americans can determine their eligibility for federal and State benefits** such as food stamps, assistance with utility bill and transportation, Medicare, Medicaid, and property tax abatement. If you know someone who might benefit from a checkup, visit the NCOA website at www.benefitscheckup.org. If assistance is needed, contact the Kanawha Valley Senior Services at 304/348-0707 or toll-free 1-800-414-3495.



There's been a change in **redemption terms for Series EE and Series I Savings Bonds**. Any bonds issued after January 2003 must be held a minimum of 12 months before they can be cashed. Previously-issued bonds may be cashed in after 6 months. For more details, visit www.treasurydirect.gov on the internet.



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