



DIRECTOR'S BOOK NOOK

With Director John Faria

This month the Jackson County Public Library will help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Jackson County Historical Society. Since 1969, the Historical Society has been collecting & developing information about Jackson County's history. They have always had a good working relationship with the library, & they've provided us with many of the items that you find in the West Virginia Room's genealogy collection at both libraries.

Over the years the Jackson County Historical Society has compiled over 9,000 Jackson County obituaries & a lot of other local history information on their website, which is at <https://ichswv.org>. One of the website's features is a collection of over 50 articles by Corinne Fisher & Delmar Hite covering various aspects of the Civil War in West Virginia.

In order to help preserve more records of our local history, the Historical Society published a book about Jackson County in 1990 & another one in 2012. Both libraries have copies of them that anyone can check out at any time. The Jackson County Historical Society also maintains both the Washington Western Lands Museum & the Sayre Log House in Ravenswood, which have more information on the area's history.

One of the Historical Society's members recently produced the documentary film The Last Gallows, which aired on several West Virginia PBS stations. It's about the November 3rd, 1897, slaughter of the Pfof-Greene family, & the subsequent hanging of their convicted murderer, John Morgan, in Ripley, on December 16th of that same year. This execution has the notoriety of being the last public hanging in West Virginia. You can check out a DVD of the film at the Ripley library or purchase your own copy at the Ripley Convention & Visitors' Bureau Office. Another Historical Society member is getting ready to publish the book Swift Justice, which is also about the John Morgan hanging. And yet another member is being honored by the State Legislature as a West Virginia History Hero. You can access much more information about Jackson County's past (& present) at the Jackson County Historical Society's website.

You can also join us here at the Jackson County Public Library in Ripley on Saturday, March 16, at 2:00pm, as we kick off their year-long anniversary celebration with a special workshop about Native American & Civil War Genealogy. It will feature special guest speaker Greg Carroll, formerly of the WV Archives & History Division of the WV Department of Arts, Culture, & History.

On another note, sometimes I'm asked, "What books are you reading?" One that I'm currently reading is The Historian by Elizabeth Kostova, a richly evocative, hypnotic retelling of the vampire legend of Dracula. The story is rooted in the actual historical figure of Vlad Tepes, better known as Vlad Dracula, a Lord of Wallachia (now a region of modern-day Romania) in the late 1400's. Told through the eyes of a 16-year-old female protagonist & her father, it covers 500 years of history of the Ottoman Empire & Eastern Europe, detailing both the origins & the growing terror of Dracula. If this sounds interesting to you, Ripley's Young(ish) Adult Book Club is also reading this book & will be discussing it at their March 27th meeting. Anyone is welcome to come to discuss it with them—if you dare!

That's all for now, 'til next month, & remember—keep reading!

John H. Faria

Library Director

Taxes, by AARP

It's that time of year again! AARP will be at both library branches helping from February 1 throughout the tax season.

They provide **free** state and federal tax filing services for all ages.

Please contact either library branch with any questions, or for more information.



They will be at the Ripley branch on Wednesdays, from 10 am—2 pm, and at Ravenswood on Mondays and Fridays,

Beginner Crafting Workshops

At the Ripley Library

Mark your calendars, the Ripley library is hosting a variety of crafting workshops aimed at newcomers in 2019!

All workshops will be from 6 pm—8 pm on their given date.

Crochet	Tuesday, January 29th
Knitting (using needles)	Tuesday, February 5th
Knitting (using alternate methods)	Tuesday, February 12th
Quilting	Tuesday, February 19th
Felting	Tuesday, February 26th
Cross-Stitch	Tuesday, March 5th

Learn simple stitches to begin a small project. All materials will be provided by the library. Please bring an embroidery hoop, if possible.

Doodling 101



Start with a doodle...end with a work of art.

Tuesday, March 19

At 6:00 pm

Join us as we introduce our version of a new art style using doodles! Create beautiful, original, works of art easily!

World Poetry Day

at the Ravenswood Library

Poetry Day is a celebration of poetry for everyone, everywhere. It's a chance for you to use poetry to say things that can't be said in prose.

To celebrate, the Ravenswood branch will be hosting a poetry reading on Thursday, March 21, at 11 am.

Share some of your favorite poems, or bring in something you've written to share!

Refreshments will be available.

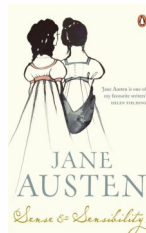
BOOK CLUB MEETINGS

Between the Lines

Sense and Sensibility

By Jane Austen

Tuesday, March 12 at 6 pm at Ripley

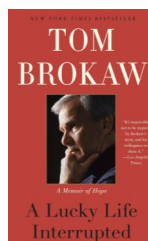
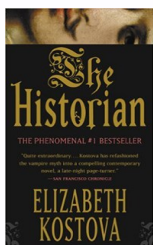


The Young(ish) Adult Book Club

The Historian

By Elizabeth Kostova

Wed, March 27 at 6 pm at Ripley



My Time

A Lucky Life Interrupted

By Tom Brokaw

Thursday, March 28 at 10 am at Ripley

What We're Reading

Take a recommendation from your librarians!

Revenger by Alistair Reynolds

My Squirrel Days by Ellie Kemper

Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward

The Next Person You Meet In Heaven by Mitch Albom

The Body by Stephen King

They Fought Like Demons: Women Soldiers in the Civil War by Deanne Blanton and Lauren M. Cook

Daughter of Smoke and Bone by Laini Taylor

The Eve, Quinn, Bonnie Trilogy by Iris Johansen

