

# West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

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WEST VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF  
CULTURE & HISTORY

## From the Editor:

*We are aware that articles and letters have been published recently in several genealogical and historical society newsletters around West Virginia regarding the West Virginia Archives and History Library.* Discussions, planning and decisions on such matters are not conducted at the Archives and History staff level. Please direct all telephone calls, e-mails and letters to Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner of West Virginia Division of Culture and History; Kay Goodwin, Secretary of Education and the Arts; and/or to Governor Joe Manchin. We are always glad to hear your expressions of support for Archives and History's programs, facilities and staff, but we can not provide any information on your current concerns.

## The Value of Local Histories

Histories of towns, counties, regions—even specific hollows, creeks and mountains—have always been recognized by the Archives and History Library staff as valuable sources of information seldom found in print elsewhere. Nineteenth and early twentieth century local histories in particular often included extensive information on early pioneers and founding families, plus contemporary local businesses, newspaper publishers, politicians, schools and teachers, and other bits of genealogical interest. Long-time residents knew where encounters with Native Americans took place, when lynching occurred, whose farm was a station on the Underground Railroad, where Civil War skirmishes happened, and which restless young men headed west in search of gold or land. The Library has an extensive collection of books, pamphlets and newspaper articles relating to local history, most of which can be found by searching the online catalog, <http://ill.wvlc.lib.wv.us/vt1s40/frame/>, using the name of a community or county, or the Archives and History Web site's "Counties" section, [\[www.wvculture.org/history/counties.html\]\(http://www.wvculture.org/history/counties.html\).](http://</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

I was prompted to remind you about this subject by remarks made by Curt B. Witcher, Allen County Public Library, in *Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library*, No. 33, November 30, 2006: *As there currently is no easy or convenient*

*online access to the many thousands of town and county histories on the free, open web, many researchers undervalue them. Others nearly ignore them because the histories fall into the category of secondary source documents. I, however, believe county and town histories should be*  
*Continued on the next page*

## Research Request Letters to the Archives Library

The West Virginia Archives and History Library accepts research requests by regular mail on a limited basis for a fee. A researcher may write a letter requesting two search requests per letter for records, obituaries, etc., for a non-refundable search fee of \$15.00 for out-of-state residents or \$5.00 for in-state residents, with each fee including the first \$2.50 in copy costs (\$.25 per photocopy and \$.50 per microfilm copy). Fees for any oversize copies or state certificates will be added. Requests submitted without the required fee will be returned. Requests that are beyond the scope of our staff's limited time will be returned along with a list of

researchers who have informed us they are available for hire in this area. Please allow four to six weeks for our reply, but feel free to check on the status of your letter after two or three weeks. Emergency and rush services are available for additional fees. For complete information and instructions, visit our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/services.html> and <http://www.wvculture.org/history/rr.html>.

All that said, our staff is very competent, insightful and well-experienced in performing genealogical research. We can do our best work when provided with as many clues as possible for each record

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*approached as sources of great clues and leads, as well as sources which provide tremendous (and necessary) context for our research. It is often in these local histories that we find when waves of immigrants settled in a particular area and learn from whence they came. It is in these histories that we discover the first evidence of religious denominations in a specific locale, as well as when stores, schools, and manufacturing shops opened. All this information, all these clues, can significantly advance one's genealogical endeavors.*

While Mr. Witcher is correct in saying that not much is available free on the Web, the Archives and History Library can help you access over 20,000 volumes of local history and family history via the digitized books in the HeritageQuest Online database to which the Library subscribes. Patrons visiting the Library in the Cultural Center in Charleston have free access to HeritageQuest Online (and Ancestry Library Edition) from the Library's computers. There are a few public or society libraries that still offer remote access via the Internet from any computer, with a library card or society membership, so you should check with the libraries you use to see if this service is open to you. If not, a trip to the Archives Library will be very helpful to you. If you are

## **Archives and History News Web Address Update**

*West Virginia Archives and History News* has a new Web address: <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>. Those of you who have our site listed as a favorite will need to update your bookmark. The current issue and all back issues of the newsletter are posted here, along with Title and Subject indexes.

unable to visit the Library in Charleston, and know of a specific book reference you would like us to check for you, you can send us a written research request (see instructions and suggestions in this issue) or hire an independent researcher to come on your behalf (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/researcherlist.html>). How much we will be able to help you will depend on whether the book in question has

## **1956 WV State Death Records Now on WVRR Database**

Since all 1956 West Virginia Dept. of Health Death Records are now over 50 years old, another year of death certificates have been loaded into the West Virginia Vital Research Records (WVRR) database. The updated free searchable database, accessible from the West Virginia Archives and History Web site at [http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va\\_select.aspx](http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx), contains printable images of all West Virginia state death certificates from the inception of state record keeping in 1917, through 1956. Records of deaths from 1853 through 1916 and beyond are available in the county records of the 55 individual counties, six of which currently are included in the WVRR database online, with ten more to be added in the near future

## **Eighth Annual Hoot Owl Research in the Archives Night Set for March 30–31**

The popular annual "Hoot Owl" research all-nighter in the West Virginia Archives and History Library begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30, and continues non-stop until 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 31. Registered researchers will be "locked in" for events planned to include tours of the Closed Stacks and Processing areas of the Archives, as well as advice and assistance from recognized West Virginia genealogy experts. Although

an index or is otherwise well-organized. Unfortunately, many of these titles were not indexed, and were not divided into logical, consistent chapters that make finding specific information a quick and easy task. Some of them have separate indexes, usually name indexes only, prepared many years after the original publication by local researchers (out of frustration, I am sure!).

(see related article in the December 2006 issue, <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/1206news.pdf>). For those records not available online, you may contact the individual county clerks; contact the West Virginia Dept. of Health Vital Registration office for records from 1917 to the present and Delayed Birth Records; read the microfilmed copies of West Virginia county records in the collections of the Archives and History Library, other West Virginia area libraries, some genealogical and historical societies and LDS church-affiliated Family History Centers; or write a research request to the Archives and History Library (see related article in this issue).

food and drink are not allowed anywhere in the Library and Collections areas, light refreshments, coffee and soft drinks are included in the \$25.00 registration fee and will be available in the staff conference room, plus a late night pizza delivery is usually arranged for those who care to contribute toward the cost.

"Hoot Owl" night offers participants an opportunity to meet

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and talk with other West Virginia researchers, many of whom live out-of-state or who live in-state but seldom travel to Charleston. A prize will be given to the person traveling the farthest. The event is limited to fifty participants, who must register by March 17, 2007. (If spots are available, late registration will be accepted with a \$10.00 surcharge, for a total fee of \$35.00.) For additional information or registration, contact Fredrick H. Armstrong, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230 or fhamstrong@wvculture.org, or Wes Cochran, MYHF, (304) 422-1774, wescochran@juno.com. As an added bonus this year, Wes Cochran has donated research and resource books from his personal collection to be sold at "give away" prices, with proceeds going to MYHF to purchase materials for the Archives and History Library collection.

If you are not a MYHF member, we hope you will consider joining. Mining Your History Foundation functions as a "Friends of the Library" group for the West Virginia Archives and History Library by providing both monetary and material donations, and by supplying volunteers who assist in many capacities. MYHF's other goals include networking among genealogical societies in West Virginia, and dissemination of information pertaining to research in and about West Virginia. Annual dues of \$15.00 for either a society or an individual include the following benefits:

- *Mountain News* newsletter four times a year
- Submission of three queries per issue of *Mountain News*
- Notice of workshops and programs in West Virginia
- Publication of member societies' announcements in *Mountain News*
- Distribution of member societies' flyers and brochures at State and

*Eleventh Annual*

**West Virginia History Day**

<i>Exhibits</i>	<i>Re-enactments</i>	<i>Music</i>
<i>History Hero Awards</i>	<i>Storytelling</i>	

February 22, 2007  
 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

State Capitol Complex, Charleston

*Sponsors: Friends of the WV Division of Culture and History, Mining Your History Foundation, Preservation Alliance of WV, Inc., WV Archives and History Commission, WV Association of Museums, WV Historical Association, WV Historical Society, and WV Humanities Council*

National genealogy conferences and attended by MYHF representatives MYHF's Web address is [http://](http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/)

[www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/), and their mailing address is P. O. Box 6923, Charleston, WV 25362-0923.

### **Soundex to Be Added to HeritageQuest Online**

The West Virginia Archives and History Library has microfilm copies of the original U.S. Bureau of the Census Soundex cards for 1880 (households with children under 10), 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930 (seven counties only). Briefly, the Soundex (and a related system, Miracode) use a coding method based on the sound of letters when pronounced to group together names which may be pronounced the same although spelled differently (Smith and Smythe, Dixon and Dickson) or names with letters of the alphabet that may be pronounced similarly enough (or mispronounced) to confuse spelling or lead to alternate spellings (Booker and Bucher, Wyatt and White, Atkins and Adkins, Bauer and Bower). The system is not foolproof, since it can not accommodate a few typical corruptions of pronunciation due to regional or ethnic accents, such as the evolution of the surname Meadows into Meadors and Medders; however, it can be invaluable for locating people whose

surnames were misheard or mis-transcribed, such as Wells and Wills, Waggoner and Wagner, Taylor and Teller, etc. [Editor's Note: The November/December 2006 issue of *Everton's Genealogical Helper* includes an excellent article, *Is Soundex Obsolete?* by Willis Else.]

HeritageQuest is indexing and digitizing these Census Soundex records for addition to the HeritageQuest online subscription database by the end of 2006 or early 2007. We will be watching for this new service to appear and will let you know when it does through a future newsletter article. The Bureau offers an explanation of the Soundex indexing system on its Web site at <http://www.archives.gov/publications/general-info-leaflets/55.html>. Both HeritageQuest Online and Ancestry Library Edition subscription databases are available on the Library's Reading Room computers free of charge to all patrons. Remote access from your

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## Archives and History Evening Workshops Resume

The West Virginia Archives and History Library is continuing its Evening Workshops with both new topics and repeats of proven favorites. All workshops are offered from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Archives and History Library in The Cultural Center in Charleston. Admission is free and no registration is required, although we would appreciate a call to (304) 558-0230 or an e-mail to [bobby.taylor@wvculture.org](mailto:bobby.taylor@wvculture.org) to let us know you are coming. Some workshops are repeated in this series, but feel free to attend a workshop you have taken with us before, whether it was last year or this month—you may hear something new or have new questions to ask. Genealogical and historical societies are invited to hold either a regular meeting or a field trip for their members in conjunction with a workshop. To arrange for a group visit, contact Robert Taylor, Library Manager, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 163, or e-mail him at [bobby.taylor@wvculture.org](mailto:bobby.taylor@wvculture.org). Scheduled workshops are listed

below. Upcoming topics, dates to be announced, will include *The Care of Books*, presented by Robert Taylor; and *Surname Files in the Archives*

and *History Library*. Also, we are looking for a few select guest speakers in addition to our own knowledgeable staff.

### Evening Workshops Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
February 6 Tuesday	Terry Lowry	<i>Researching Your WWII Soldier: Finding Your Father's War</i>
February 13 Tuesday	Joe Geiger	<i>Exploring the West Virginia Archives and History Web Site</i>
February 15 Thursday	Dick Fauss	<i>Home Movies and Video</i>
February 27 Tuesday	Susan Scouras	<i>Cemetery Research in West Virginia</i>
March 8 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal</i>
March 13 Tuesday	Susan Scouras	<i>Cemetery Research in West Virginia</i>
March 22 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal</i>
April 26 Thursday	Doug Wood, guest speaker	<i>Researching 18th-Century American Indian History</i>

*Registration for this free workshop is helpful but not required.*  
 Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail [bobby.taylor@wvculture.org](mailto:bobby.taylor@wvculture.org).  
 Workshops are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston, West Virginia.

## Everton's Genealogical Helper Magazine

*Everton's Genealogical Helper*, publishing Volume 60, is a venerable institution in the field of genealogy, and after some turmoil involving all of the Everton family enterprises in recent years, accompanied by rocky times for genealogical print periodicals in general, has emerged with a strong product for family history researchers. They have beefed up their staff with well-known writers from the recently defunct *Heritage Quest* magazine, and have a no-nonsense, clean and uncluttered publication style. All methods of research and types of resources are

included, from oral history to books to digitized records to Web sites. The emphasis is on quality information on a wide variety of topics of interest to both amateur family historians and professional genealogists. The most recent issue available in the West Virginia Archives and History Library is the November/December 2006 issue, Volume 60, Number 6, featuring the following articles, regular columns and more:

- *How to Produce Family Newsletters*, by Anne Hart
- *Gifts from the Heart*, by Loretta Evans [Family history-related gifts

you can make yourself]

- *National and Statewide Name Lists of the Civil War Era—Part 2*, by William Dollarhide
- *Is the Soundex Obsolete?*, by Willis Else [The answer is "No!" Detailed history and explanation of the Soundex and Miracode systems and their use is provided in a top notch article researchers will refer to over and over.]
- *Census Lessons from the Rich and Famous*, by Michael John Neill
- *Germanic Genealogy*, by Horst Reschke

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- Scandinavia Questions and Answers, by Ruth Ellen Maness
  - Beginner's Corner: *Revolutionary War Era Lineage Societies*, by Donna Potter Phillips
  - Computer Helper: *GEDCOM—How to Read It, How to Use It*, by Shirley Hornbeck
  - Net Family History: *The Best Genealogical Portals on the Internet*, by William Dollarhide
  - Bureau of Missing Ancestors [Queries from readers posted seeking information about ancestors]
  - Surname Index [Indexes surnames appearing in this issue]
- The July/August 2006 issue, Volume 60, Number 4, featured these articles:
- *Cracking the Cousin Code*, by George G. Morgan [Includes a relationship chart for defining relationships from siblings to the elusive “third cousin, twice removed” up to eighth cousins]
  - *DNA to Africa*, by Aaron L. Day
  - *The Magic of Mindmapping*, by Loni Gardner [Techniques for brainstorming and organizing thoughts]
  - *State Censuses and Substitutes: A Selected List for all 50 States*, by William Dollarhide

## New Titles

- Early Pocahontas County (West) Virginia Marriage Bonds (& Records), 1822–1879:** Evelyn E. Blake, 1998.
- Work Relations in the Coal Industry: The Hand-loading Era, 1880–1930:** Keith Dix, 1977.
- Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia, Part VI: 1779 John Wright of Prince Edward County, His Wife Anne (Pryor) Wright, and Their Descendants:** Robert N. Grant, 2006.
- An American Vein: Critical Readings in Appalachian Literature:** edited by Danny L. Miller, Sharon Hatfield and Gurney Norman, 2005.
- Red, White, Black & Blue: A Dual Memoir of Race and Class in Appalachia:** William M. Drennen, Jr. and Kojo (William T.) Jones, Jr., 2004.
- The Life and Photography of Doris Ulmann:** Philip Walker Jacobs, 2001.
- Our Place in History: Southwestern Preston County, West Virginia:** Connie Loraine Cox, 2005.
- A Miner's Life:** John Brody, 1964.
- Finding Your Father's War: A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II U.S. Army:** Jonathan Gawne, 2006.
- Growing Up in Nitro:** Keith Estep, 2006.
- Appalachian Legacy:** Enoch E. Hicks, 2006.
- Lemuel Chenoweth, 1881–1887: Bridging the Gaps:** Randy Allan, 2006.
- Noble's Decision:** Andrew Chafin, 2006.
- A Journey of Faith: Country Boy to Clergyman: Memoirs of Ross Linger as Dictated by Ross Linger:** transcribed and edited by E. Leon Linger, M.D., 2006.
- John Brown, Abolitionist: The Man Who Killed Slavery, Sparked the Civil War, and Seeded Civil Rights:** David S. Reynolds, 2005.
- Alleged Evil Genius: The Life and Times of Judge James H. Ferguson:** Kenneth R. Bailey, 2006.

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**Permission to reprint articles from *West Virginia Archives and History News* is granted, provided:**

(1) The reprint is not used for commercial purposes, and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the reprinted material: Previously published in *West Virginia Archives and History News*, [Volume and issue numbers], [Month, Year], a publication of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

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## Lecture on Researching African American Communities

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is a well-known source for genealogy and history research. The Library's History and Genealogy Department is hosting a three-part lecture series regarding African American communities as part of its celebration of Black History Month in February. The first lecture, on February 3, features Timothy Pinnick as speaker on the topic *Developing the Genealogy of an African American Community: A*

*Case Study.* Mr. Pinnick has visited the West Virginia Archives and History Library several times in the past few years as part of his research on African American miners and mining communities, and continues to exchange resource information and

contacts with several of our Library staff members. He has studied genealogy and local history, and has developed research strategies pertinent to tracing African American coal miners as they migrated for work and as they formed or joined predominantly African American coal camps or segregated neighborhoods within largely white coal camps.

*For more information about the lecture, see Library Links, a newsletter of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Winter 2007, Volume 14, Issue 1, available online at <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/pubs/links2007-1.pdf>. To learn more about Tim Pinnick and his research, visit <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~blackcoalminers/index.htm>.*

## Historic Preservation Development Grants Available

Applications are now being accepted for historic preservation development grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Approximately \$400,000 will be available for grant awards, contingent upon appropriation of funds from the West Virginia Legislature or the United States Congress. Eligible projects include the restoration, rehabilitation or archaeological development of historic sites listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places. Properties owned by church organizations or used exclusively for

religious or governmental purposes are not eligible for funding. Privately owned properties are eligible only in instances where there is evidence of public support or public benefit.

For more information about the historic preservation development grants or a complete program description, including funding priorities and selection criteria, visit the Division's Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo>, or contact Pamela Brooks, grants coordinator, at (304) 558-0240, ext. 720. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 31, 2007.

## SHPO 2007 Calendars Now Available

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History has released its sixth annual calendar with beautiful color photographs. According to the introduction by Susan M. Pierce, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, the 2007 calendar, *Who Knew? Unusual Historic Sites in West Virginia*, "focuses on the unusual examples of historic resources, listed or considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register, that are not necessarily buildings of significant architectural style or archaeological sites." The cover features the carousel at Camden Park, while photographs of the following grace the monthly calendars and accompanying informative pages: Hawks Nest, La Belle Iron Works in Ohio County, Wildcat Branch petroglyphs in Wayne County, Lustron houses in Raleigh and Harrison counties, an oil derrick in Tyler County, Oakhurst Links Golf Course at White Sulphur Springs, more rides at Camden Park in Wayne County, road resources

(highway markers of various types), Reber radio telescope at Green Bank in Pocahontas County, iron furnaces, Tray Run viaduct in Preston County, Cass Scenic Railroad engines in Pocahontas County and the C&O 1208 steam locomotive in Huntington, Organ Cave in Greenbrier County, and points and line (surveyor's markers). The calendar also includes information about the National Register of Historic Places, the SHPO's tax credit program and its grant programs.

Calendars are free and available while quantities last. The Archives and History Library will have a limited number to distribute to walk-in patrons only. If you are unable to visit The Cultural Center to pick up a 2007 calendar, you may contact Conni McMorris, receptionist for the SHPO and Arts sections of the Division, at (304) 558-0240, or e-mail at [conni.mcmorris@wvculture.org](mailto:conni.mcmorris@wvculture.org). *Who Knew? Unusual Historic Sites in West Virginia* was funded in part by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

"Soundex" continued from page 3

home computer is not available. Users may print copies from the site for \$.25 per page on the library's printer, or may purchase a formatted floppy disk for \$1.00 to download information. Use of personal disks is not allowed due to security concerns.

In addition to the Census database, HeritageQuest currently offers PERSI™, the PERiodical Source Index, which indexes thousands of genealogy and local history periodicals; over 20,000 genealogy and local history books; Revolutionary War era pension, bounty land warrant records; and Freedman's Bank records (African American banking service from 1865–1874).

## Web sites of interest

The *Richmond Daily Dispatch*, November 1860-December 1865, digitized, searchable and browseable: <http://dlxs.richmond.edu/d/ddr/index.html>. This collaboration between the University of Richmond, Tufts University and the Virginia Center for Digital History is an on-going project with more Civil War era newspapers and other features yet to be added.

The **Cemeteries and Cemetery Symbols** Web site, <http://cemeteries.wordpress.com>, includes photographs of engravings on tombstones, and is a good complement to a Web site we told you about several years ago, **A Pictorial Catalog of Commemorative Flagholders and Plaques of Organizations and Military**, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~srgp/flaghold/flaghold.htm>, on the Tri-Counties [PA and NY] Genealogy and History Web site of Joyce M. Tice.

**Stones of Faith: Pennsylvania Germans and Their Gravestones** Web site: [http://www.pagstones.com/pgs\\_stone\\_overview.page.html](http://www.pagstones.com/pgs_stone_overview.page.html).

*"Research" continued from page 1*

requested. Be sure to include telephone numbers and e-mail addresses so staff members can make quick contact for questions to clarify the search or for permission to extend the research for an additional fee. For any birth or death record before the statewide indexes begin in 1917, we need to know what county to search. If you don't know the county, locate the person sought in census records as close to the year of the event as possible. (For example, for a child born in 1872, locate the family in 1870 and 1880.) For marriage records, the statewide index begins in 1921, with both bride and groom indexes, except for 1936-38, when only groom indexes are available. If you don't know the dates, estimate the year of the event as best you can using the information you have. (For instance, if a married couple had their first child in 1933 and both were single in the 1930 census, search marriage records for 1930-33.)

**Archives and History News**  
**is available on the**  
**Archives and History Web site**  
<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>

## **"Pic of the Week" Returns**

"Pic of the Week" has returned to the West Virginia Archives and History Web site by popular demand as of December 2006. You will find a link to the current picture for the week on our home page, <http://www.wvculture.org/history>. Past postings are also still available for viewing, including the very first one, an Archives staff long-time favorite photograph of possums pulling a toy

## **Calendar of Events**

Please check our web site (<http://www.wvculture.org/history>) for genealogical and historical society meeting announcements, and for more complete information on activities listed below.

### **"COVERED BRIDGES: SPANNING THE AMERICAN LANDSCAPE," November 4, 2006-January 7, 2007:**

Smithsonian Institution Exhibit,  
 Museum in the Park, Logan State Park, Logan.

**NEW YEAR DAY, January 1, 2007:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

### **WEST VIRGINIA RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION BOARD,**

**January 7-9:** The Cultural Center, Charleston.

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY EVENTS,**

**January 13-15:** The Cultural Center and other locations, Charleston.

Visit <http://www.wvculture.org/events.aspx> for details.

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY, January 15:**

Archives Library will be open.\*

### **2007 HISTORY DAY DISPLAY SPACE REGISTRATION DEADLINE, January 15.**

### **WEST VIRGINIA ARCHIVES AND HISTORY COMMISSION MEETING,**

**January 26:** Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg.

### **"DEVELOPING THE GENEALOGY OF AN AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY: A CASE STUDY," February 3:**

Timothy Pinnick, Black History Month lecture series,  
 Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### **LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, February 12:**

No longer a state holiday. All government offices will be open.

**PRESIDENTS' DAY, February 19:** Archives Library will be open.\*

**HISTORY DAY, February, 22:** The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

*\*Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed.*

The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

cart. While all staff members may make suggestions as they find interesting images in the Archives collections, Archives and History

archival photographer Ed Hicks uses his sharp eye (and great sense of humor) to choose the images to be featured.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History  
 The Cultural Center  
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West Virginia  
**Archives & History**  
**NEWS**



**We would love to hear from you.**

Let us know what you find helpful in the newsletter, and what new topics you would like covered.

Contact *West Virginia Archives and History News* Editor Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 742, or by e-mail: [susan.scouras@wvculture.org](mailto:susan.scouras@wvculture.org).

**Archives and History Staff**

- Fredrick Armstrong** ..... Director
- Debra Basham** ..... Archivist (photographs, special collections)
- Constance Baston** ..... Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
- Greg Carroll** ..... Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
- Dick Fauss** ..... Archivist (microfilm and moving images collection)
- Denise Ferguson** ..... County Records Archivist
- Allen Fowler** ..... Special projects
- Elaine Gates** ..... Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)
- Joe Geiger** ..... Assistant Director (Historian, Web page)
- Ed Hicks** ..... Photographer (archival photography, darkroom)
- Mary Johnson** ..... Historian
- Terry Lowry** ..... Library Assistant (Veterans records)
- Cathy Miller** ..... Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
- Sharon Newhouse** ..... Secretary
- Harold Newman** ..... Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
- Susan Scouras** ..... Librarian (cataloging, Kentucky, library collection, newsletter editor)
- Jaime Simmons** ..... Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)
- Bobby Taylor** ..... Library Manager
- Nancy Waggoner** ..... Secretary
- Volunteers** ..... Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, Randy Marcum, Sue Shank, Ken Bailey, John McClure, Carol Vandevender, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie

This newsletter is a publication of : The West Virginia Division of Culture and History  
 Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner