

The Fontana Flyer

Spring 2017

Quarterly Newsletter



Fontana Regional Library

33 Fryemont Street
Bryson City, NC 28713
828.488.2382

www.fontanalib.org

Inside this issue:

In Remembrance:
Teresa Bryant 2

Reading Rover
Fundraiser 2

Technology Support
for Seniors 3

Fundraiser for New
Library in Swain 3

Advocating for
Connectivity 4

Science Festival 4

FRL Regional Board
Retreat 5

Astronomy Training
101 6

Lifespan 6

Makey Makey with
the JCPL Science
Club 6

Free eBook Service
for NC Children 7

Chocolate Cook-Off
Winner 7

Fontana Regional Library Long Range Plan

In the past year, the Library has developed a new Long Range Plan that turns outward to focus on needs identified by our public. We will join with other community organizations and agencies to address our community needs. Our community goals are:



CONNECTIVITY - Affordable broadband service to every home and business.



EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY - People who want resources relating to employment and economy will find what they want and will have the help they need to make choices from among the options.



DIVERSITY - The community will recognize the library as a safe, inclusive place to access information and services that meet the needs of a diverse community.



HEALTH & MENTAL HEALTH - People will be able to identify and access the resources and information they and their families need to live healthy lives.



EDUCATION - All community members will have the educational support and opportunities they need.

While we will be working to address issues that we share with our community, we will not neglect the core library services you have come to expect:



RECREATION/LEISURE SERVICES - Community members will be able to explore trends and pursue interests that improve their quality of life.

To ensure that we have the resources to achieve these goals, we will continue to strive for:



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE - The Library will have the infrastructure and resources to provide excellent service and convenient access for the community.

Look for these icons throughout this newsletter to see how we are working on these goals. We'll keep you posted in future issues, on our website, and in our social media, of our efforts and progress.



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National Library Week is Coming April 9-15



National Library Week, a 7-day celebration of America's libraries, will be observed April 9-15, 2017 with the theme, "Libraries Transform."

To mark the occasion, we invite you to stop by your local library or visit our website at www.fontanalib.org to experience the transformation that has happened since 1958, when the first National Library Week was celebrated. At the library today, you can check out a telescope, visit a portable planetarium, see the work of local artists and crafters, take a class to learn how to do something new, connect to the internet, check out eBooks and eAudiobooks, or do something fun and educational with your kids. No matter your interests, Fontana Regional Library can connect you to unlimited possibilities.

To keep the transformation going, we want to hear from you about your changing needs and how we can meet them. Look for a survey coming soon at all Fontana Regional Library locations and online at www.fontanalib.org during National Library Week.

April 12 is National Bookmobile Day! The Reading Rover is Fontana's bookmobile, and every year it brings storytime and early learning to hundreds of children at twenty-six childcare centers in Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties. To make a contribution to the Reading Rover, please go to www.fontanalib.org or call 828-488-2382.



Free eBook Sharing Service Now Available for NC Children



Children across North Carolina now have access to free eBooks and eAudiobooks through a new statewide program. Designed for kids in pre-K through 4th grade, NC Kids Digital Library includes more than 3,700 eBooks, audiobooks, videos and Read-Alongs. The program is available through all Fontana Regional Library locations in Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties, as well as at 85 regional, county and municipal libraries across the state. These materials are

instantly available for every child with a library card and internet access via a computer, tablet, or smartphone.

This unique statewide eBook consortium specifically for children was created by the North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA) together with OverDrive digital reading platform and the State of North Carolina. The books were chosen to tie in with summer reading activities and North Carolina's 3rd grade reading initiative.

In Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties, any child or adult with a Fontana Regional Library card can access the NC Kids Digital Library.

NC Kids Digital Library is sponsored by NCPLDA and the NC General Assembly with assistance from the State Library of NC, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources. The State Of North Carolina has provided \$200,000 for the State Library to work with NCPLDA to create a statewide consortium for all public library cardholders.

For more information, please contact your local Fontana Regional Library location in Macon, Jackson, or Swain County or visit www.fontanalib.org.



Congratulations Chocolate Cook-Off Winner

Congratulations Taylor Crawford, winner of the 2017 Friends of the Library Chocolate Cook-Off! Taylor is a regular patron of the Albert Carlton – Cashiers Community Library and a young entrepreneur with a brand new baking business. We will continue to support her in her endeavors, by providing the resources she needs for her business and by continuing to eat her very tasty wares.



In Remembrance – Teresa Bryant

The Library lost a member of our family on February 17, 2017, when Teresa Bryant, the Branch Supervisor at the Nantahala Community Library passed away. Teresa first came to work at the library on July 1, 1994. Since that time she has been the face and spirit of the Nantahala branch of the library. Teresa was known for her kindness and her gentle spirit. She always had a smile for everyone. She will be greatly missed by her family, the library staff, and by the community.



A colorful poster for the Reading Rover Fundraiser. The top has a pink background with white sprinkles. The main text 'READING ROVER FUNDRAISER' is in large, bold, orange letters. Below it, in smaller text, is 'JACK THE DIPPER & SOUTH OF PHILLY'. The date and location are 'SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017' and '170 E. SYLVA SHOPPING CENTER SYLVA, NC'. There are several logos at the bottom, including 'Smart Start', 'Western Piedmont', and 'Center for Service Learning'. There are also small text boxes with details like 'Run for Kids', 'NOON-2:30', 'ice cream eating contest', '4:00', 'philly steak fries eating contest', and '4:30'.

A fundraiser for the **Reading Rover Bookmobile** will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017. The event will take place at Jack the Dipper and South of Philly in Sylva. The fundraiser is a coordinated effort with WCU Center for Service Learning, Jack the Dipper, South of Philly, Fontana Regional Library, and Region A Partnership for Children. There will be fun activities for kids from noon to 2:30 p.m. The infamous ice cream eating contest will take place at 3:00 p.m. and a new eating contest added this year which involves Philly steak fries at 4:30 p.m.

10% of the days sales at Jack the Dipper and South of Philly will be donated to the Reading Rover. Come on out and enjoy some food and fun to benefit the Reading Rover!



Partnering with the Department on Aging to Offer Seniors Technology Support

Jackson County Public Library Staff and Volunteer Technology Mentors have been offering traditional computer classes at the Department on Aging (for people 50 or older) for about a year and half. The topics have ranged from *Using a Smartphone* to *Facebook Security*.

Based on recommendations from Seniors and the Senior Center staff, we will now be offering short information sessions on technology during lunch. This series called "Lunch and Learn" is meant to teach Seniors about emergent technology and electronic library resources.

Upcoming Classes at the Senior Center:

(Lunch & Learn programs are in the Heritage Room)

May 10th- Podcasts

Lunch and Learn- 12:00

August 8th- Editing Digital Pictures w/ Pixlr

Lunch and Learn- 12:00

September 13th- Ebooks from the Library

Lunch and Learn- 12:00

October 25th- Audio Books from OneClickDigital

Lunch and Learn- 12:00



Jenifer Ross from JCPL teaching a Smartphone class at the Department on Aging in Sylva, NC.



Another Fundraiser Planned for a New Library in Swain



The Marianna Black Library Planning Committee is arranging for another fundraiser to help build a new library in Swain County. The Fryemont Inn, in Bryson City, will host an evening of food and a silent auction in mid-April (date and time to be announced soon). Items from area crafters and businesses and local antique collectors are being donated and they are not to be missed! The folks at the Fryemont are known for their hospitality and excellent faire — so this

is sure to be a hugely successful fundraiser. Stop by the Marianna Black Library or call 828-488-3030 for updated information about this event or to purchase tickets.

In other news, the planning committee has been looking at the space needs for the new library. A subcommittee has looked at every space recommendation and fine-tuned the allocated areas and their adjacent areas. This will get the group one step closer to meeting with an architect, who will develop a rendering of the new library. This rendering will be an important step in helping the public visualize the new library and the services it can provide to the entire community.



Astronomy Training 101



Staff at all Fontana Regional Libraries attended an Astronomy 101 training in the Portable Planetarium. Staff participated in learning how to find familiar constellations in the night sky, learned some fun astronomy facts, and watched a short movie about a solar eclipse to prepare for the August 21st total solar eclipse that will be visible at all of our locations.

Telescopes are being checked out at your nearest Fontana Regional Library! You get the Orion Starblast Telescope for 7 days that comes with easy to use manuals and tips on stargazing!

"The Portable Planetarium and Telescopes are supported by grant funds from the Institute

of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources."



LIFESPAN empowers teens and adults with disabilities to live, work, and play in their communities. Partnerships with the local library have made that mission a true reality in Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties.

"The library has been an excellent partner to reach those who need a boost to get back into the workforce," said Alisha Tatum Senior Director of LIFESPAN. "Our Employment Specialists assist with finding employment and training new employees to succeed at work." Employment Specialists assist with everything from building interviewing skills, developing an effective resume, completing applications, and matching applicants to the right positions.

If there are local businesses in need of qualified applicants, contact LIFESPAN's Program Coordinator Amanda Nicholson today to discuss how she can assist you with filling open positions. Amanda can be reached at 828-201-2743 or anicholson@lifespanservices.org.



The Jackson County Library's Science Club created a human piano while studying conductivity using the library's Makey Makey, an interactive circuit board device, during Science Club: Play-Doh Lab this Valentine's Day. Along with creating a human piano, the kids made their own Play-Doh and used it to make Play-Doh portraits, as well as to play games such as Tetris and Pac Man with the Makey Makey.



FRL Regional Board Working to Provide Excellent Service

February 7, 2017 - In keeping with Fontana Regional Library's mission to provide the public of Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties with excellent service and convenient access to resources for their educational, informational, and recreational needs, the Regional Board, members of the local county boards, and library staff attended a retreat led by Molly Westmoreland from the North Carolina State Library. The meeting, held at the Balsam Mountain Preserve in Jackson County, discussed the roles and responsibilities of library board members and the challenges and benefits of regional libraries in North Carolina.



Yes, I'd like to help support the Fontana Regional Library!

The Library receives less than \$23 per person in state and local taxes to provide all our services. Your donation helps keep new materials on the Library's shelves, helps keep computers running and helps maintain our programming. All donations are tax-deductible.

Enclosed is my gift of:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other

Considering a major gift?

Please contact your local library for details.

Please use my gift for:

☐ Books ☐ Music, movies, & recorded books ☐ Magazines
☐ Workshops & programs ☐ Computers ☐ Greatest need
☐ Reading Rover ☐ New Marianna Black Library

Please make checks payable to:
Fontana Regional Library
33 Fryemont Street
Bryson City, NC 28713

FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY

Branch Locations

AC-CCL

Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library
 249 Frank Allen Rd, Cashiers, NC 28717
 828-743-0215

HL

Hudson Library
 554 Main St., Highlands, NC 28741
 828-526-3031

JCPL

Jackson County Public Library
 310 Keener St., Sylva, NC 28779
 828-586-2016

MCPL

Macon County Public Library
 149 Siler Farm Rd., Franklin, NC 28734
 828-524-3600

MBL

Marianna Black Library
 33 Fryemont St., Bryson City, NC 28713
 828-488-3030

NCL

Nantahala Community Library
 128 Nantahala School Rd., Tipton, NC 28781
 828-321-3020

Advocating for Connectivity

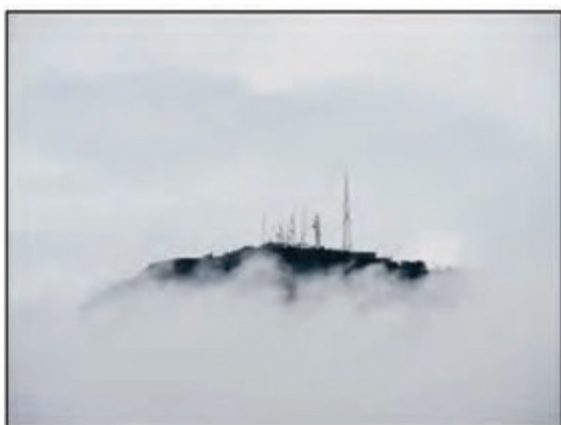


Recently Fontana Regional Library (FRL) completed its 5 year long range plan, and "Connectivity" became one of our 7 goals. The goal's focus is to promote "Affordable broadband service to every home and business" using 2 strategies. These strategies are, "Keep the public informed of initiatives, opportunities, and barriers to connectivity in this area" and "Advocate for affordable 'last mile' broadband connectivity for our service area."

Each of the FRL member libraries are now planning to actively engage with their local communities on all of their new FRL long range plan goals. Starting with the strategy *Advocate for affordable "last mile" broadband connectivity for our service area*, FRL IT Manager John Tyndall and the Marianna Black Librarian Jeff Delfield have recently submitted membership nominations for the Swain County Broadband Committee.

"Swain County's idea for a Broadband Committee is right on target," said Tyndall. "We look forward to engaging with this locally established team and being able to offer library resources to assist in identifying the community's needs, prioritizing, and strategically addressing them."

More updates and stories will follow as more of FRL member libraries "connect" with their local communities.



The Jackson County Public Library and the Macon County Public Library are participating in the North Carolina Science Festival presented by the Biogen Foundation. The festival will be held from April 7-23, and each library will be hosting one event during this timeframe. First, at 4:00PM on Tuesday, April 11th at the Jackson

County Public Library, the monthly Science Club will meet. *Science with My Peeps* is a Spring themed Science Club where children will use recycled materials to build a contraption in which to protect their raw eggs from a high fall, as well as build catapults (to launch Peeps) out of popsicle sticks, spoons, and rubber bands. Then, on Thursday, April 20th at the Macon County Public Library, Family Science Night will begin at 6:00PM. This program will consist of a variety of hands-on science related activities for kids and grown-ups of all ages, including a number of shows in the Portable Planetarium. (These planetarium programs are supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.)

