

Northumberland Public Library

Spring 2021

Signs of spring are upon us



The signs of spring are all around the library. Umbrellas, mud, puddles, farm tractors and the stunning annual bloom of the tulip magnolia behind the library. This year, there is a new “sign” this spring. An electric sign at the front of the library. It’s hard to miss but we’re pointing it out anyway. No longer are the treks to put up messages letter by letter required. And it can be set to give the time.

Lucky for us, we still have the same familiar faces working inside. Below from left: Marilyn Smith, Children’s Program Coordinator, Cate Land, Customer Service Supervisor, T.T. Haynie (also in the photo above taken by Cate) Tech Mobile, Arthur S. Newman, Community Outreach Supervisor, Andrea Ullrich, Library Clerk.



From the Director

Thanking our staff; patrons as advocates for the library's future

I love Spring. I love the new growth, the buds on trees, and the robins in the yard. Spring is also the time of the year we celebrate libraries, although I celebrate ours all year.

This month, we celebrate National Library Week from April 4 through April 10.

On Tuesday, April 6th, we celebrate National Library Workers Day. This is a great day for thanking our library workers who so tirelessly give of their time to serve the community in which they live. For some, they travel quite a distance to the library they work in, for others, they live right down the street, but all come with a sense of pride in their work and leave with a sense of accomplishment each day.

I am proud of the staff at Northumberland Public Library. While they accomplish so much, they do it with a sense of joy. I have never seen a more dedicated group of people who have so much desire to serve the people of Northumberland County. Even through the pandemic they have stepped up and worked to make the library a safe and friendly place, where everyone can come to get the services they need.

I'm not the only one who notices. One patron told me we were her "saving grace" during the pandemic because "even though she had to stay at home she had plenty of books to keep her company."



Behind the library, under a sprawling tulip magnolia, Marilyn Smith, Children's Program Coordinator, is recorded by Arthur S. Newman, Community Outreach Supervisor for Story Time at Home.

Annual Budget

This is also the time of year we submit our budget requests to the county for fiscal year 2021-22. I have already made my request and will have a chance to talk with the County Board of Supervisors when they start their budget talks.

Did you know that you play a very important part in those budget discussions? Now is the time to share with your County Supervisor what your public library means to you. We need you to advocate on our behalf!

Another way to get your voice heard is by filling out our Long-Range Plan Survey. This short four ques-

tion survey will help us plan for the future of the library. I have many dreams for this library and I would love to hear yours.

We've made it easy for you to go online and fill it out: <https://nplibraryva.org/long-range-plan-patron-survey/> or use the copy provided in this newsletter and drop it at the library or scan it and email it to me at Jblue@nplibraryva.org Long-range plans are an important part of the development of the library and our services and get submitted to the state library, which oversees our projects and programs ensuring we provide enough of both.

Please, do it soon, so we can include your thoughts in our plan.

Spring is in the air, I can feel it, even though as I write this the forecast is calling for snow flurries tomorrow. March is going out like a lion.

That reminds me, we have a great book in the children's section called "The Library Lion" by Michelle Knudsen, have you read it? Come on in, I'll check it out to you. Happy reading!

Jane Blue



From Pre-School to High School, Summer Program Keeps Reading Relevant



If your children love animals and enjoy stories about animals, then they are going to love this year's Summer Reading Program, "Tails and Tales." Events this summer will be both in-person and virtual. For in-person programs, we'll meet outdoors as much as possible with all COVID-19 safety protocols at the time of the program in place. Some events will have limited attendance, so you will need to call ahead to reserve your place. Flexibility will be key, so check our website and Facebook page or call for the most recent information.

Virtual Events

Checkers Library TV is a weekly educational and entertainment program starring Checkers the Inventor, his sidekick Snoozer and a variety of special guests. Each 30 minute episode will feature a different habitat and animal and will include many activities including visits to zoos and aquariums, games, crafts and more. A new show posts every Monday beginning June 7.

Each month two **virtual story times** for our youngest readers will feature a different animal. Crafts will be included in the Take & Make Bags available monthly for pick up at the library. Pick one up, take it home, and have fun!

At the Library

We'll have two **story times** each month at the library. When the weather permits, we will meet behind the library under the tulip magnolia tree.

Unicorns: Break the Cage Not everything at the city zoo is as it seems. Two curious kids take a closer look and discover what they believe is a unicorn. But unicorns aren't real...or are they?

This show designed for K-5 includes an animated story, bite-sized science lessons, and an interactive video host. The show features live science experiments and everyone gets to participate.

Animal Meet and Greet Come and meet some animal friends in person. We will meet on the soccer field at the YMCA several times with different animals. We thank our partners at the

YMCA for a great space for this event, with lots of room to spread out and plenty of parking.

Read to the Dogs One of our most popular programs, children get to read a book to a dog trained for this task. This is a big boost for reluctant readers.

Reading Goal Challenge

There will be reading goal challenges for all ages. Elementary students will receive a reading log and program guide with their report cards at the end of the school year, thanks to the great partnership we have with Northumberland Elementary School. The school reading goal set for the summer by NES is always a challenging one, but students have met every reading goal given to them, and I'm confident they will do it again! So, encourage students you know to keep reading all summer.

Brag tags are new reading rewards this summer for elementary students. Tags are earned for each ten books read and reported to the library. Students can earn up to ten tags and add beads for program attendance.

A Program For All Ages

Younger children, from infants to preschoolers, can track reading and earn prizes as well. Teens and adults can play **BOOK BINGO**. Pick up a BINGO card at the library or download one from nplibraryva.org When you get a BINGO, turn your card in and get a prize. Your name will be entered into a drawing for numerous prizes including Echo Dots, gift baskets and more.

Throughout the summer, **Take & Make Bags** will be available outside of storytime to all preschool and elementary-aged kids. Bags contain a variety of crafts, activity sheets, games, and more. We are looking forward to an enjoyable summer full of "Tails and Tales!"

Marilyn Smith †††



Long Range Plan Patron Survey

Northumberland Public Library is in the process of revitalizing our long-range plan and would like to get your input. Please take a minute to answer a few questions to help us in the planning process.

Please leave your completed survey at the front desk or email it to Jblue@nplibraryva.org

Thank you!

- 1. Of the following, which services do you use that are offered by Northumberland Public Library? (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Copying	<input type="checkbox"/>	Downloading books
<input type="checkbox"/>	Faxing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Downloading Magazines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Checking out Magazines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scan to email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reading Periodicals/Newspapers in the lounge
<input type="checkbox"/>	Checking out books	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using the Wi-Fi
<input type="checkbox"/>	Checking out DVD's/Multimedia	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using the Library Computers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Checking out Audio Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	Printing from the Library Computers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Downloading audiobooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using the Meeting Room
<input type="checkbox"/>	Research	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using our Inter-Library Loan Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notary Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using our Mobile Library
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using the remote book drops	<input type="checkbox"/>	Using the Library for tutoring
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using our online resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taking a class when offered

- 2. Are there services we do not offer that you think would be a benefit to the community?**

- 3. For demographical purposes are you a (check the box that best fits)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Permanent Resident	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weekender/only here occasionally
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- 4. Do you have a Northumberland Public Library Card?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
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- 5. If money were no object what is one service you wish were available in the county that is not currently available?**

- 6. Anything else you would like to share with us?**

Friends of the Library brings “Lockdown Lottery” to NPL

For Friends of the Library fundraising during the pandemic has been a significant challenge – no High Teas, no Fashion Shows, and no Books Alive! or Arts Alive! events. But we think we have found a brilliant and socially distanced solution: The Lockdown Lottery!

Following in the footsteps of our Lancaster County Library-neighbors, we are initiating a limited ticket lottery with 300 chances for seven winning tickets – six \$500 winners and one Grand Prize of \$5,000.

Tickets are \$100 each, and fractional purchases are allowed so people can share a the cost of a ticket and the potential prize. The drawing will be held on Saturday, July 17th at the Heathsville Farmers Market.

If all goes according to plan, the Lockdown Lottery should raise \$21,000 for the Library.

We are excited about this charitable event – it is COVID safe, it is transparent, and there is a sizable reward for the

seven winning ticket holders.

Tickets are for sale at the library, Ye Olde Book Shoppe and at a table every Saturday at the Heathsville Farmer’s Market beginning April 17.

We consulted with the Virginia State Commission for Charitable Gaming and are carefully following their guidelines. Tickets will be available at the Library, the Bookstore, and directly from Library and Friends board members. You can buy tickets with a credit card only at the library.

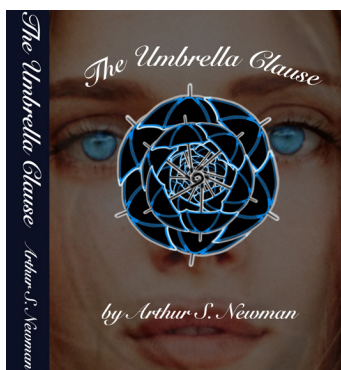
For appearance’s sake, library employees, current members of both library boards and their immediate families are ineligible to participate. But that leaves lots of nieces and nephews eligible to take part. Watch for the formal kickoff of the Lockdown Lottery on our Library’s website.

And remember – You Gotta Play to Win!

✿ Friends ✿

A new book and an 18-month long leadership program

NPL’s Arthur Newman is building his expertise as author and in library outreach



Before Arthur S. Newman was the library’s community outreach supervisor, he was a full time communications technician working 70 hours-a-week, with a

roundtrip commute of just over four hours. That did not stop him from learning about the insurance industry and receiving a license to sell insurance. It was during that time he developed the idea for his debut novel “The Umbrella Clause.” “Umbrella insurance will absorb the additional cost when all of your basic insurance needs or coverages are exhausted or excluded. It provides protection when all else fails.” explained Newman. Like Newman’s children’s books, this

one is self-published.

On the night billionaires Andrew Berkeley and Warren Ripley announce a \$50 billion profit for their successful Artificial Intelligence business, lives are shattered as both families tumble down the spiral of The Umbrella Clause.

Leadership Program

Newman will participate in the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Outstanding in Their Field Leadership Institute. Beginning in August, he joins a group of 30 library

professionals from around the country for 18 months to deepen their understanding of and commitment to professional values while they gain practical managerial skills.



Library Director: Jane Blue

Children’s Program Coordinator: Marilyn Smith

Librarian: Alison Towles

IT Specialist: Karen Whelan

Community Outreach Supervisor: Arthur S. Newman

Bookkeeper: Joanne Adams

Library Clerks: Kara Goodrow, Gay Posey, Andrea Ullrich

Customer Service Supervisor: Cate Land

Tech Mobile: T.T. Haynie

Publicist: Pamela Hagy

Library telephone: **804-580-5051**

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