

# Library Connections

SEPTEMBER 2024



**catawba county**  
library system

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828.465.8664



[www.catawbacountync.gov/library](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/library)



## BACK TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR LIBRARY

Summer is coming to an end and students of all ages are returning to school. Whether you are learning how to read and write, starting your senior year of high school, or need a refresher on how to use NCLive for college papers, Catawba County Library is here to support all of your back to school needs.

The library offers a multitude of learning resources for virtual and in-person learning. The library has study rooms equipped for virtual meetings, WiFi hotspot and Chromebook lending, desktop computers for in-library use, Homework Helpers, Paws to Read, and free access to NC LIVE, Northstar Digital Literacy, Transparent Languages, and online tutorials.

The library installed five state-of-the-art work spaces at the Main Library in Newton late last year. These specialized soundproof office spaces, complete with high-quality video conferencing technology, are available for the community to use for privacy and virtual meeting needs. The library has been thrilled to hear how helpful these spaces have already proven to be for community members. Our meeting and study room spaces located at the Sherrills Ford-Terrell, St. Stephens, and Southwest Branch Libraries, and the Main Library in Newton have provided a place for studying, remote work, private phone calls, online education classes, Zoom meetings, and telehealth. All library locations have computers, tables, and WiFi hotspot and Chromebook lending (check out just like you would a book) available to the public. WiFi hotspots and Chromebooks can be checked out by Catawba County residents with a library card, and offer longer checkout periods for students. Homework Helpers are high school student and adult volunteers



that help elementary and middle-school children with homework and reading practice. High School students can earn service hours at the library with our Homework Helpers program while younger students can receive assistance with their studies. To help our youngest learners build comfort in their skills, the library brings in local therapy dogs for PAWS to Read sessions. Children who read aloud to therapy dogs on a regular basis demonstrate dramatic improvement in their reading skills, thanks to the safe, non-judgmental presence of man's best friend.

The library also offers a wealth of online resources that come with your library card. Access them from your personal device at home or wherever you are! You can download e-books, stream movies or music, watch tv shows, and listen to audiobooks through Libby and Hoopla. NC LIVE is the digital home to more than 100 databases for education and enrichment including access to online tutorials and self-paced guides, academic journals and articles, reliable healthcare information through MedlinePlus, and learning one of the 110+ languages through Transparent Language. The library is now offering its newest available resource, Northstar Digital Literacy. Northstar is a free self-guided online set of assessments that show your ability to perform basic computer tasks, complete with learning resources and certificates to provide credentials for employers and higher education requirements.

As you gear up for the new school year, remember that the Catawba County Library is your partner in educational success, offering a wealth of resources, technology, and support to help you achieve your academic goals and beyond.

**THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 IN OBSERVANCE OF THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.**

# CHILDREN

## Ready to Learn Storytime: Preschool

Preschool story time with reading readiness. Join us for songs, sensory play, crafts, and stories designed to prepare your preschooler to learn.

### Wednesdays at 10 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Main Library in Newton

### Wednesdays at 11 am

Southwest Branch Library

### Thursdays at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
Southwest Branch Library  
St. Stephens Branch Library

### Fridays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

## Ready to Learn Storytime: Tiny to Two

### Mondays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton  
This sweet, simple, 20-minute story time features rhymes, bounces, sensory play, and singing for our youngest learners. Playtime follows.

## Pre-K STEAM

Children and their grownups are invited to explore interactive play stations to build confidence in learning.

### Thursday, September 5 at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

### Friday, September 13 at 10 am

St. Stephens Branch Library

### Tuesday, September 17 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

### Friday, September 27 at 11 am

Southwest Branch Library

## PAWS to Read

Encourage your young reader through reading with a therapy dog. Please schedule your visit by calling: 828-466-6821 for St. Stephens, 828-465-8665 for Newton, or 828-466-5108 for Conover.

### Tuesday, September 10

St. Stephens Branch Library

### Monday, September 16

Main Library in Newton

### Wednesday, September 18

Conover Branch Library

## Safe Kids Storytime: Back to School

Wednesday, September 4 at 10 am

St. Stephens Branch Library

Join us for Safety Time with Jessi Kirby from Safe Kids! We will read stories and important safety lessons, making it a fun and educational experience for children and families.

## Homeschool Hangout

Thursday, September 5 at 11 am

Conover Branch Library

Are you a homeschooling family or group? Come out and meet other homeschoolers! We'll have an activity and coloring pages. For grades K-5.

## Viva la Vida: Hispanic Heritage Month

Saturday, September 14 at 11 am

Conover Branch Library

Celebrate the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month with a crafty morning full of fun y sabor! For grades K-8.



## Cultura en la Cucina

### Culture in the Kitchen

Tuesday, September 17 at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with us as we share stories and recipes that relate to your unique families. We will cook arroz con leche as a group, but please feel free to bring your own recipes to swap! All are welcome!

## STEAM Ahoy!

Wednesday, September 18 at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

Bring out your inner pirate to explore concepts like buoyancy, binocular vision, and more. For grades 3-5.

## Hora de cuentos bilingüe

### Bilingual Storytime

Friday, September 20 at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Esta hora de cuentos especial incluirá cuentos y canciones bilingües. This special storytime will include bilingual stories and songs.

## Bike Rodeo

Friday, September 27 at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library

Bring your bicycle or tricycle & helmet for this special obstacle course to learn about being safe as you ride.

## Do Re Me & You Dance Party

Saturday, September 28 at 11 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Join us for 30 minutes of music and movement! For children under 5.

## The Wild Robot at your Library

Saturday, September 28 at 11 am

Main Library in Newton

Join us for beginner Dash Bot team challenges. One lucky participant will win two AMC passes to see The Wild Robot movie based on the Peter Brown book series.

# TEENS

## Skin Care 101

Tuesday, September 10 at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

There are lots of skin care products on the market. What do you really need? Join Advanced Skin Care Consultant, Jill Adair, to learn how to take care of your body's largest organ.



## Teen Night: Air Plants

Tuesday, September 10 at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Join us for a Teen Air Plant Program! Learn about air plants and how to care for them while creating a unique display. Perfect for teens interested in gardening and nature!

## Teen Sanrio Bead Buddies

Friday, September 13 at 4 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Using nothing but beads, string, and a few helpful patterns, make some of your favorite Sanrio characters, like Hello Kitty, Kuromi, and Cinamoroll, in this fun and simple craft for teen patrons!

## The Pink Library Club for Teens

Friday, September 20 from 6 - 8 pm

Conover Branch Library

Come out for an after-hours, Chappell Roan inspired program! We will have activities, music, and snacks! To register, please visit [tinyurl.com/CCLS-pinklibraryclub](http://tinyurl.com/CCLS-pinklibraryclub) or call 828-466-5108. For ages 13-18.

## Cheese!

Tuesday, September 24 at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

Cheesy does it now! Join us for this cheese fest as we taste and rate a variety of cheeses. You may discover a new favorite, your cheesen one.

# ADULTS

## Zumba Mondays!

*Mondays at 6 pm (No class September 2)*  
Main Library in Newton  
Kick off your week with a burst of Zumba, a dance and movement class that's too much fun to call exercise. It's appropriate for every skill and ability level and open to anyone 14+ (parental signature required for teens under 18).

## Purl and Chain: Knit and Crochet Club

*Tuesdays at 6 pm*  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Make new friends and enjoy the company of others while you knit and crochet. Bring your own materials.

## Become an Excel Expert

*Tuesdays at 6 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Whether spreadsheets are your love language, or you actually have to use them in your work tasks, chances are these trainings will answer all of your most pressing questions. Sign up for the classes you need. To register, please visit [tinyurl.com/ccls-ExcelExperts](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-ExcelExperts)

**September 3** - *The Quick Access Toolbar, Conditional Formatting, Data Validation, Regular Charts*

**September 10** - *Lookups - Part 1: XLOOKUP & VLOOKUP*

**September 17** - *Logical Aggregation (SUMIFS/AVERAGEIFS/MAXIFS/MINIFS)*

**September 24** - *Working with Text (TEXT-BEFORE/TEXTAFTER/TEXTJOIN/TEXTSPLIT)*

## Mindful Movement

*Fridays at 3 pm*  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Combining stretching with low-impact exercises may benefit both your emotional well-being and your overall health. Whether you're seeking to improve flexibility, reduce stress, or enhance your overall well-being, this program offers a welcoming space to move, stretch, and rejuvenate. While this class is geared to 50+, adults of all ages are invited to join.

## Avoiding Online Scams

*Tuesday, September 3 at 6 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library  
Scams everywhere you look online, and they're only getting more convincing and sophisticated. This program will equip you with the skills and knowledge you need to spot common signs of scams before you fall victim!

## Chair Yoga

*Wednesdays, Sept 4 & 18 at 11:30 am*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a beginner-friendly, gentle flow chair yoga class. Chair yoga allows you to perform yoga poses while seated or using a chair for balance.

## Career Center

**Wednesday, September 4 from 1 - 4 pm**  
Main Library in Newton  
**Wednesday, September 18 from 1 - 4 pm**  
St. Stephens Branch Library

A Goodwill career specialist will be available to provide one-on-one assistance with your job-related needs. Want to get your resume on Indeed or LinkedIn? Reserve a 30-minute appointment by calling 828-465-8665, or drop in as you are able.

## Gentle Flow Yoga

*Fridays, September 6, 13 & 20 at 11 am*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a beginner-friendly, gentle flow yoga class. You are encouraged to bring a yoga mat or towel as well as a small blanket.

## Bullet Journal Club

*Monday, September 9 at 6 pm*  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Join us for a laid-back hangout where we swap doodle ideas, chat about organizing tips, and sharing our favorite spreads. Some supplies provided, but feel free to bring your own.

## Seed Saving

*Tuesday, September 10 at 6 pm*  
Maiden Branch Library  
Seed saving is the process of saving seeds from one harvest for the next. There are many reasons gardeners collect and save seeds - to save money, for the challenge, or to save a specific variety. Master Gardener, Sharon Abernethy, will share how to properly harvest, process, and store seeds.

## Digital Resources: NCLive – NewsBank

*Tuesday, September 10 at 6 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library  
Learn about how the library can provide you with free and convenient access to local and national newspapers from anywhere with your library card!

## Mystery Mavens Book Club

*Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 pm*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
The Mystery Mavens book club welcomes new members and is open to the public, even if you haven't read the book. Join us for a lively discussion on *The Kingdoms of Savannah* by George Dawes Green.

## Chess Around the World

*Wednesday, September 11 at 6 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Become fascinated by the intricacies of dozens of beautiful chess sets from around the world in this hands-on chess set exhibition and history talk. Learn how chess got started, the materials and artistry throughout the ages and test the feel of the different pieces in your hand. To register, please call 828-465-8665 or visit the library.

## Adult Caregivers of Aging Parents: Difficult Conversations

*Thursday, September 12 at 5:30 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
This month's program will help attendees prepare for and hold conversations with their aging parents about legal and financial issues, driving, independent living, and more.

## Garden Volunteer Days

*Saturdays, Sept 14 & 28 from 9 - 11 am*  
Main Library in Newton  
We're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with tasks such as weeding, mulching, and planting at the Main Library's community garden. Whether you're a gardening expert or a just starting out, all ages and experience levels are welcome.

## Mountain View Book Club

*Monday, September 16 at 6 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library  
Come join us for a lively discussion on *The Caretaker* by Ron Rash. Everyone is invited to participate in engaging conversation and lots of fun!

## Shelf-Care Book Club

*Monday, September 16 at 6 pm*  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Treat yourself to the best kind of self-care: a good book! Our September book is *Murder Road* by Simone St. James.

## Get Vote Ready

*Tuesday, September 17 from 9 am - 6 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Take advantage of National Voter Registration Day to register for the first time, update your existing registration, or check your registration for correctness and find out your precinct location. Do any of these activities at the library today and get an "I'm Vote Ready!" sticker.



### Paper Crafting Club

Wednesday, September 18 at 6 pm  
Main Library in Newton

Join us to explore the many types of arts and crafts using card or paper as a primary medium – from journaling, drawing, coloring, stenciling, painting, folding, decoupage, scrapbooking, card making as well as paper crafts practiced by cultures across the world.

### Let's Dip Dye

Thursday, September 19 at 2 pm  
Main Library in Newton

Let's get messy and learn how to dip dye yarn. Participants will experiment with color and methods to see what works best. Please wear old clothes since we will be using dyes. All supplies provided. To register, please call 828-465-8665.



### Needle Felting

Thursday, September 19 at 4 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Explore the textile art of needle felting as we create a small fall wreath. Finger protectors will be available for participants to use. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-6827.



### Piece of Cake Book Club

Thursday, September 19 at 5 pm  
Carpe Crustum in Downtown Newton

Selecting a diverse range of works and authors, join us to talk about September's selection *James* by Percival Everett. Get ahead with October's pick *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick.

### Foundation Directory Online 101

Friday, September 20 from 9 am - 12 pm  
Catawba County United Way

2760 Tate Blvd SE, Hickory  
Running a nonprofit is challenging on many levels. A great resource the library provides to nonprofits is FDO, a database of every grant issued to every nonprofit since 2003. Attend this hands-on workshop to learn: the three most important types of searches to locate funders whose giving history matches the work you're doing; shortcuts and timesavers to use when accessing the database; and where to obtain additional free trainings on the grant writing process. Employees and volunteers for area nonprofits are encouraged to bring your own laptop so you can email yourself search results or specific funder profiles.

### Qi Gong

Saturday, September 21 at 9:30 am  
Main Library in Newton

Involving gentle movements, controlled breath patterns, and focused attention, Qi Gong can be practiced seated or otherwise – a great practice for those new to movement. Open to anyone 14+ (parental signature required for teens under 18).

### Trivia Night

Monday, September 23 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library

Get ready for a fantastic time filled with fun, fascinating facts, and exciting prizes hosted by Valerie Carpenter!

### Whimsical Wood Slice Art

Tuesday, September 24 at 4:30 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Create a small, whimsical art piece using air dry clay, paint, and moss. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-6827.



### Mushroom Guide

Tuesday, September 24 at 6 pm  
Conover Branch Library

Learn to identify and how to use common mushrooms from your backyard!

### Books Between Friends Book Club

Tuesday, September 24 at 6 pm  
Claremont Branch Library

Join our discussion of *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Thrilling, tense, and tender, the book is about an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard.

### Catawba County Genealogical Society

Tuesday, September 24 at 7 pm  
Main Library in Newton

Join the genealogical society for their monthly meeting, followed by an introduction to new local history and genealogy materials available for research in Catawba County. All are welcome to attend.

### Got Resume Builder

Thursday, September 26 at 2 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Learn how to craft a resume with Got Resume Builder. This free online tool is designed to assist you in both content creation and formatting, enabling you to create a polished and professional resume for the new year.

### Music Bingo

Monday, September 30 at 6 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library

Get ready to rock, roll, and relive movie magic at our exciting Music Bingo event! Dive into a musical journey through the greatest hits of classic rock, timeless country tunes, and unforgettable movie soundtracks. Grab a bingo card, listen for the songs, and mark your way to victory!

## LIBRARY TO GO

### Music on Main

Thursday, September 12 from 5 - 8 pm  
Downtown Newton

Library to Go will be providing children's activities during this fun downtown event.

### Race United

Saturday, September 14 from 4 - 7 pm  
3130 US Hwy 70 SE, Newton

Join us at the Hickory Motor Speedway for a resource fair and then stay for free racing and fireworks.

### Catawba Valley Pride Festival

Saturday, Sept 21 from 10 am - 3 pm  
1670 Southwest Blvd, Newton

Join us at Catawba Farms for books and activities for all ages.

### Hispanic Heritage Festival

Sunday, September 29 from 3 - 8 pm  
246 Union Square NW, Hickory

Enjoy music, games, face painting, food, pinatas, and raffles! We will have crafts and bilingual storytime.



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MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON

828.465.8664

CLAREMONT BRANCH LIBRARY  
CONOVER BRANCH LIBRARY  
MAIDEN BRANCH LIBRARY  
SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH LIBRARY  
SOUTHWEST BRANCH LIBRARY  
ST. STEPHENS BRANCH LIBRARY

828.466.6817  
828.466.5108  
828.428.2712  
828.466.6827  
828.466.6818  
828.466.6821