

Library Connections

APRIL 2026



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library system

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NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

A CELEBRATION OF LIBRARY JOY

What brings you joy?

Whether it's cozying up with a good book, learning a new skill, or gathering with community, you can find your joy at the Catawba County Library.

National Library Week, April 19–25, 2026, is a time to celebrate the many ways libraries bring people together, spark imagination, and support lifelong learning. From books and digital resources to job assistance and creative programming, libraries are essential to thriving communities.

At the library, we invite everyone to join the celebration! Whether you're a longtime patron, a new neighbor, or haven't visited in a while, now is the perfect time to explore all the library has to offer. The Catawba County Library provides unique programs and services including Pre-K STEAM and storytimes, career workshops, makerspaces, book clubs, physical and digital collections, technology workshops, and lifelong learning programs, ensuring everyone has access to resources that help us connect, explore, and grow.

Whatever brings you joy, the library has something for everyone. Whether you're preparing for a career change, launching a business, raising a family, or embracing retirement, your library is here to support your journey.

Libraries serve as hubs for learning, creativity, and connection, helping people of all ages explore new ideas and opportunities.

- **Monday, April 20: Accessibility Day** - Libraries are for everyone!
- **Tuesday, April 21: Library Workers Day** – Celebrate the dedication and contributions of library workers! Join us on social media to highlight the library's stellar staff.
- **Wednesday, April 22: Outreach Day** – Celebrate the many ways our library connects with the community! From Library to Go and remote pickup lockers to school visits, digital navigators, and outreach by our dedicated staff, we're building relationships and ensuring everyone has access to the information and resources they need.
- **Thursday, April 23: Supporting Our Libraries Day** – Show your appreciation for the library! Thank your elected officials for their support by sending a card. Your advocacy and support help ensure a bright future for our community.



First celebrated in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries of all types across the country each April.

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, APRIL 3 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 4 FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAY.

CHILDREN 0-5

Ready to Learn Storytime: Preschool
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

Join us for rhymes, bounces, sensory play, and singing for our youngest learners.

Mondays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Fridays at 10 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library



Pre-K STEAM

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

Thursday, April 2 at 3 pm

Wednesday, April 15 at 11 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Thursday, April 9 at 10 am

Saturday, April 25 at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday, April 2 at 10 am

St. Stephens Branch Library

Join us for storytime followed by an indoor Easter Egg Hunt!

CHILDREN 6-11

PAWS to Read

Tuesday, April 7, 14, & 21

by appointment

St. Stephens Branch Library

Encourage your young reader through reading with a certified therapy dog.



Homeschool Hangout

Thursday, April 2 at 11 am

Conover Branch Library

Are you a homeschooling family or group? Come out and meet other homeschoolers! We'll have a passive activity and coloring pages.

Movie Matinee Monday: Zootopia

Monday, April 6 at 2 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Celebrate spring break with a special Monday Movie Matinee featuring *Zootopia*. Enjoy an afternoon of laughs, adventure, and big screen fun with family and friends.

Domino Demolition Derby

Wednesday, April 8 at 3 pm

Main Library in Newton

Explore kinetic and potential energy, flex your engineering skills, and, most importantly, make a lot of dominoes fall down!

Lego Club

Friday, April 10 at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library

Build, make and play as we explore our creativity with free play and a gotta build em' all Lego challenge.

Film Fun Friday: Zootopia 2

Friday, April 10 at 2 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Celebrate spring break with a special Film Fun Friday featuring *Zootopia 2*. Join us at the library for an afternoon of action, laughs, and big screen adventure. All ages welcome.

Homeschool STEAM:

Colonial Creations

Tuesday, April 14 at 1 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us as we celebrate America's 250th birthday with colonial creations. This hands-on program will give students an opportunity to experience fun and games from the Colonial America times.

Stream Study

Tuesday, April 21 at 6 pm

Conover Branch Library

Celebrate Earth Day by being a scientist and examining our local water with Carolina from the Western Piedmont Council of Governments.



Earth Day STEM

Wednesday, April 22 at 4:30 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

By engaging in this activity based on the book *The Water Princess* by Susan Verde, children will learn about the science of water filtration and gain a better understanding of how access to clean water affects people around the world.

Tales in the Garden:

Earth Day Music Adventure

Wednesday, April 22 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Celebrate Earth Day in the Garden! Join us for a special nature sounds program featuring Zephyr Woodwind Ensemble and the String Trio. Children will create their own instruments, interact with the musicians, listen to the sounds of nature, and enjoy a musical bilingual story.

Perler Bead Club

Thursday, April 23 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Make designs using small beads that are fused together with heat.

STEAM: Sink or Float

Mayflower Edition (America 250)

Thursday, April 30 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Learn about the crossing of the Mayflower and make your own boat to see if it will sink or float in this fun STEAM program.

TEENS 12-18

Clean the Kitchen Escape Room

Tuesday, April 7 at 2 pm
Southwest Branch Library

The kitchen is a mess and time is ticking. Crack codes, solve riddles, unlock clues, and figure out what's for lunch before the clock runs out.

Book Club Internacional

Monday, April 13 at 5 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library

Explore the world through authors born outside of the US. April's book is *The Bitter Side of Sweet*, by Tara Sullivan. Light refreshments provided.

Teen Open Studio

Thursday, April 16 from 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Main Library in Newton

Whatever your creative outlet – writing, art, or something else entirely – we know you'll enjoy this opportunity to create in a laid-back, welcoming studio atmosphere.

Library Cross Stitch Bookmarks

Wednesday, April 22 at 4 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Celebrate National Library Week by learning how to cross-stitch and creating a handmade bookmark.

Teen Blackout Poetry

Friday, April 24 at 4 pm
Main Library in Newton

Discover the poetry hidden in the world around us as we create original pieces of blackout poetry from old books and newspapers!

Teen Intro to AI

Tuesday, April 28 at 6 pm
Conover Branch Library

This interactive session breaks down what AI is, how algorithms shape what you see online, and the ethics of AI in school and creativity. Learn what AI can do and where it has limits.

ADULTS

Zumba Mondays!

Mondays at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton

Enjoy a dance and movement class that's too much fun to call exercise.

NC Works

Wednesdays from 1:30 - 4:30 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Get individualized help finding work and connecting to resources.

Mindful Movement

Wednesdays & Fridays at 3 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library
Low impact exercise and gentle stretching for adults of all ages.

Career Center

Wednesday, April 1 from 1 - 4 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library
A Goodwill career specialist will be available to provide one-on-one assistance with job-related needs.

Coffee and Tech for Vets

Monday, April 6 from 9 - 10:30 am
Main Library in Newton
Veterans, drop in for free coffee and friendly tech help. Stick around to connect with fellow vets.

Bullet Journaling 101

Monday, April 6 at 6 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library
Learn the basics of bullet journaling. This month's focus will be on monthly cleaning. Bring your own journal or use one of ours.

Basic Business for Artists and Crafters

Tuesdays, April 7 & 21 at 12 noon
Main Library in Newton
This six-part series is for anyone who is starting an arts business.
April 7: *Marketing Your Arts and Crafts Business*
April 21: *Time to Sell-Finding Your Customers*



Basic Internet Searching

Tuesday, April 7 at 6 pm
Southwest Branch Library
Learn how to find reliable information online quickly and confidently. Perfect for beginners!

Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, April 8 & 22 at 11:30 am
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a gentle flow chair yoga class.

Spring Cleaning: The Power of Decluttering

Thursday, April 9 at 3 pm
Southwest Branch Library
Spring into a clutter free season. Learn simple, sustainable strategies to clear the clutter and create a calmer, more functional space.

Needle Felting

Thursday, April 9 at 4 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Explore the textile art of needle felting as we create a nature landscape.



Adult Children of Aging Parents: Responding to Changes in Dementia

Thursday, April 9 at 5:30 pm
Main Library in Newton
This program led by Denise Young from the Alzheimer's Association will assist in understanding and managing the daily challenges and changes that come with a dementia diagnosis.



Please visit or call the library to register.

APRIL BOOK CLUBS



The Station Book Club
Wednesday, April 1 at 10 am
Conover Branch
The God of the Woods
by Liz Moore

Mystery Mavens
Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch
Broken Country
by Clare Leslie Hall



Newton Book Club
Thursday, April 16 at 5 pm
Carpe Crustum
The Greatest Possible Good
by Ben Brooks

Shelf-Care Book Club
Monday, April 20 at 6 pm
St. Stephens Branch
The Amalfi Curse
by Sarah Penner



Mountain View Book Club
Monday, April 20 at 6 pm
Southwest Branch
Blue by Joyce Hostetter

NC Reads Book Club
Monday, April 27 at 6 pm
St. Stephens Branch
Daughters of Green Mountain Gap
by Teri M. Brown



Garden Volunteer Days

Saturdays, April 11 & 25 from 9 - 11 am
Main Library in Newton

Seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with weeding, mulching, and planting in the community garden. All ages & experience levels are welcome.

Bedazzled Books

Saturday, April 11 at 1 pm
Main Library in Newton

Add a little sparkle to your shelves! Bedazzle a book and turn it into a work of art. Bring a book to glam up, all other supplies provided.



Adult Board Game Afternoon

Saturday, April 11 at 2 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library

Learn how to play fun games while meeting new people!

Mahjong

Monday, April 13 at 6:30 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Here's your chance to learn the basics and try a few practice rounds in a welcoming, no-pressure environment.

Yarn Art

Tuesday, April 14 at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton

Make a beautiful piece of wall art using various types of yarn. Learn how to add texture with braiding or twisting and beads!



Hummingbirds: Natural History and Banding Process

Thursday, April 16 at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton

Join park rangers and licensed hummingbird banders to learn about the life-cycle, diet, banding process, and predators of hummingbirds.

Gentle Flow Yoga

Fridays, April 17 & 24 at 11 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a gentle flow yoga class.

Qi Gong

Saturday, April 18 at 9:30 am

Main Library in Newton

Connect with your breathe, body, & mind.

Hamilton Hamil-Jam

Saturday, April 18 at 2 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

As America approaches its 250th anniversary, we'll celebrate the story of Alexander Hamilton and the birth of a nation through music, history, and a little theatrical flair. Costumes encouraged. Revolution guaranteed.

Libby & Princh App Assistance

Tuesday, April 21 at 2 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us to learn more about our library apps. Bring your phone, tablet or laptop for hands-on practice.

Lincoln-Catawba Songwriters Alliance

Tuesday, April 21 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Connect with fellow musicians and songwriters in a welcoming space to share your work, get feedback, and collaborate.

Evening Flow Yoga

Tuesday, April 21 at 6:15 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a gentle flow yoga class.

Creative Outlet: Candy Leis for Grads

Wednesday, April 22 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Celebrate your graduating students with a fun candy lei, the tastiest craft we'll ever do. All supplies provided, but feel free to bring curling ribbon in your graduate's school colors.



More in Your Farmers Market Basket

Thursday, April 23

12 pm & 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Enjoy this introduction to our local farmers markets, meet farmers, learn about incentive programs, and take home recipes for locally grown ingredients. Register by April 18.



Spring Clean Your Body:

The Power of Juicing

Thursday, April 23 at 3 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Enjoy live juicing demonstrations, helpful tips and recipes, and samples of fresh, delicious juices.

Crow Party

Friday, April 24 from 6 - 7:30 pm

Main Library in Newton

Enjoy the library after hours, come dressed all in black (think crow!) and bring trinkets to trade with new friends. Bring a t-shirt or cloth bag to have embellished with a special crow party vinyl, and learn about making trinkets with the 3D printer.

America 250 Trivia Night

Monday, April 27 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us for an evening of America 250 trivia fun guaranteed to test your knowledge.

Gothic Landscape Paint Night

Tuesday, April 28 at 5:30 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Step into your own gothic medieval inspired landscape painting. Dragons and knights beware.



Adult Intro to AI

Wednesday, April 29 at 10 am

Conover Branch Library

Learn all about Artificial Intelligence, the different types you encounter (like recommendation systems and voice assistants), and how it affects privacy, decision-making, and everyday life. Includes Q&A.

Loving Libby & Learning the Basics

Wednesday, April 29 at 6 pm

Claremont Branch Library

Bring your phone or tablet and join us for a hands-on class exploring Libby, the library's app for borrowing eBooks and audiobooks. Learn how to browse, borrow, and enjoy digital titles with confidence.



**CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE
CALENDAR TO SEE WHERE
THE LIBRARY TO GO
WILL BE THIS MONTH!**



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