

# Library Connections

SEPTEMBER 2021



**catawba county**  
library system

MAKING. LIVING. BETTER.

828.465.8664



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

- connect
- explore
- grow

## CLOSING THE BOOK ON FINES

The Catawba County Library is “Closing the Book on Fines” starting September 1, 2021. All Catawba County Library cardholders will see fines and fees removed from their library accounts as the library hits reset and rolls all accounts back to a zero balance.

Libraries across the country are eliminating late fees to reduce barriers to access. As our community’s place to connect, explore and grow, the Catawba County Library believes eliminating late fees fosters a sense of community and inclusion while removing unnecessary barriers that impact our most vulnerable citizens.

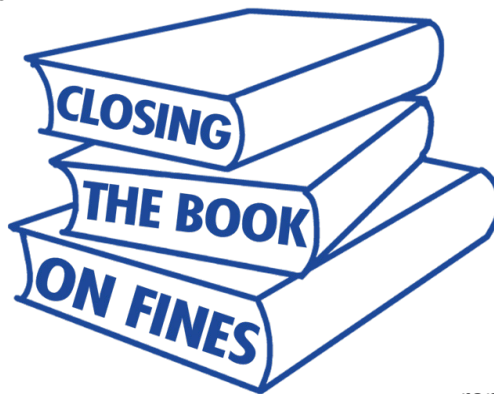
Late or overdue fines unfairly affect people in low-income communities who benefit the most from access to the library’s resources. We want all 99,141 Catawba County Library cardholders to have equitable access. By eliminating fines, the Library encourages all users to come back to the Library and attracts new users to experience our resources, services, programs and offerings.

As with other systems who have eliminated late fines, the Catawba County Library expects an increase in circulation, patrons, and patron satisfaction. Library staff will spend less time in the role of enforcer and instead provide a higher level of service to citizens. The time staff will save from no longer enforcing late fees will allow them to increase time spent on sharing resources and providing expertise in technology and reference interactions.

Library systems who have gone fine free share that late fees do not ensure the return of borrowed materials. In fact, some have reported an increase in returns after the

adoption of fine free policies. When the San Francisco Public Library held a six-week fine amnesty period, some 700,000 items were returned — including a book that had been checked out a century earlier.

“Closing the Book on Fines” is about providing equitable access, it does not mean that the library doesn’t care about its resources or getting them back. The library will still charge patrons for lost or damaged items. If an item is overdue by two weeks, the borrower will be blocked from checking out any other materials until they return or pay for that missing item. When they return it, the lost item charges will be taken off of their account. This is the perfect time for anyone who has long overdue materials to bring them back.



Provided that no one else is waiting to check out a title, the library will continue to provide an auto-renewal (up to two renewals) of your checked out items, not including technology devices. The library will also improve the notification process to send reminders encouraging people to return their materials on time or early. For anyone concerned about increased wait times for their favorite book, as always, the Library will monitor wait times and make adjustments, as necessary.

The Library is committed to empowering lives and building community by bringing people, information, and ideas together—providing equitable access for vulnerable and underserved citizens. To celebrate “Closing the Book on Fines” community members are invited to their local branch to check out National Library Card Month displays, pick up a “Closing the Book on Fines” tote bag and, of course, check out the resources available to all.

# STORYTIME

## Live Preschool Storytime via Zoom

*Tuesdays, Sept 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 6:30 pm*

Gather the kids and join us for a live, interactive preschool storytime! This family-friendly virtual event will include singing, reading, finger plays, and lots of your favorite activities! Please register at [tinyurl.com/ccl-TuesdayStorytime](https://tinyurl.com/ccl-TuesdayStorytime). You'll receive the registration confirmation and Zoom link in your email.

## Live Preschool Storytime via Zoom

*Thursdays, Sept 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 10 am*

Gather the kids and join us for a live, interactive preschool storytime! This family-friendly virtual event will include singing, reading, finger plays, and lots of your favorite activities! Please register at [tinyurl.com/CatawbaThursdayStorytime](https://tinyurl.com/CatawbaThursdayStorytime). You'll receive the registration confirmation and Zoom link in your email.

## Library to Go Storytime

*Thursdays, Sept 2 & 16 at 10:45*

*Redeemer Lutheran Church, ELCA  
200 S Main St, Catawba*

The Library to Go is making appearances in the Town of Catawba on the first and third Thursdays of each month. During each visit, we'll have storytime starting at 10:45 am, and you're invited to join us as we learn together.

## Tales in the Garden

*Monday, Sept 20 from 5:30-*

*6:30 pm*

*Main Library in Newton, Garden*

Join us for this in-person, outdoor gathering which includes bilingual stories, crafts and activities. Our September program will focus on Hispanic Heritage Month. Please bring your own blanket or camp chair.

## Sky High Storytime

*Friday, September 24 at 10:30 am*

*3101 9th Ave. Dr. NW, Hickory 28601*

Come with us to the Aviation Museum located at the Hickory Regional Airport for a special outdoor storytime! We'll read fun books, sing cool songs, and complete an awesome craft. This month our theme is space travel. Kids of all ages welcome!



# ONLINE PROGRAMS

## The Self Care Project

*Thursday, September 9 at 5:30 pm*

It's never too late to take good care of ourselves. This month we'll welcome Wellness Dietician Renee Greene who will provide strategies for turning your nutrition goals into comfortable new habits. Register at [tinyurl.com/ccls-SelfCare](https://tinyurl.com/ccls-SelfCare) to get the zoom link.

## Resumes 101

*Tuesday, September 14 at 10 am*

Learn tips from NCWorks Catawba to create a resume that will get you the interview! To register, go to [tinyurl.com/catawbajobs](https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs) and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you before the workshop.



## Overcoming Criminal Record Challenges for Jobseekers

*Tuesday, September 21 at 10 am*

Receive helpful information and assistance in overcoming the challenges of a criminal record when applying for jobs. To register, go to [tinyurl.com/catawbajobs](https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs) and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you before the workshop.



## ESL Class

*Wednesday, Sept 22 & 29 from 6-7 pm*

Come practice speaking English with us! This is a one-hour conversation for students who would like to gain more confidence in speaking English. For more information or to register, please call 828.465.8664.

## Job Applications

*Thursday, September 23 at 2 pm*

Let the pros from NCWorks Catawba give you some tips on how to complete a job application that gets you noticed. To register, go to [tinyurl.com/catawbajobs](https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs) and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you before the workshop.

## Interviewing

*Tuesday, September 28 at 2 pm*

Learn tips from the pros at NCWorks Catawba on how to ace a job interview! To register, go to [tinyurl.com/catawbajobs](https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs) and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you before the workshop.



# GARDEN VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS

Volunteering with our gardens is a wonderful way to connect and give back. Our community gardens at the Newton and St. Stephens libraries are looking for ongoing volunteers to help with weeding, general clean up, harvesting, planting, moving mulch, and other regular garden needs. Volunteering with our gardens is a wonderful way to connect and give back. We plant seeds for healthy food and strong communities.

*Tuesday, September 7 from 9-11 am @ Main Library in Newton*

*Saturday, September 11 from 9-11 am @ St. Stephens Library*

*Saturday, September 25 from 9-11 am @ Main Library in Newton*



Please let Shelly or Tim know if you can help out in the garden.  
Newton Garden: Shelley Orr at [morr@catawbacountync.gov](mailto:morr@catawbacountync.gov), 828-466-6828  
St Stephens Garden: Tim Gabe at [tgabe@catwabacountync.gov](mailto:tgabe@catwabacountync.gov), 828-466-6823



# LIVE @ the LIBRARY

To protect the safety of library patrons and staff, facemasks and social distancing will be required for attendance at all INDOOR library programs and events. Thank you for your cooperation!



## Seed Library: Donate & Borrow

Ongoing at the Main Library in Newton  
We're building a seed library, where the community can exchange seeds for free! We'll accept viable seeds at all locations during standard business hours. Heirloom seeds are especially welcome. Please package and label any donations you drop off. Seeds may also be borrowed from the Main Library in Newton. Subject to availability and cannot be reserved.



## Homework Helpers

Beginning the week of September 13  
Main Library in Newton  
Our 30-minute homework help sessions are available by appointment only. For more information or to register, please call 828-465-8665.

## Zumba LIVE with Honey & Jossiah

Mondays, September 13, 20 & 27 at 6 pm  
(no class on September 6)  
Outside the Catawba County Museum of History, 30 N. College Ave., 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).

## Piano Recital by Joyce O'Neal

Monday, September 13 at 6 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library, this program will feature well-known piano work and some pianistic surprises from local resident, Joyce O'Neal. As part of her recital series, Joyce will present works by J.S. Bach, Schubert, Moszkowski, Brahms, Gershwin, Liadov, and Prokofiev.



## Theme-Based Book Club

Monday, September 13 at 6:30 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Gather with fellow book lovers for this monthly in-person event to discuss titles based around a common theme. This month's theme is mysteries, so reread a favorite or find something new and come share your reading experience with us.

## PAWS to Read

Tuesday, September 14 and 28  
Main Library in Newton  
Children are invited to read to a certified therapy dog. By appointment only, please call 828-465-8668 to sign up for a 15 minute session.

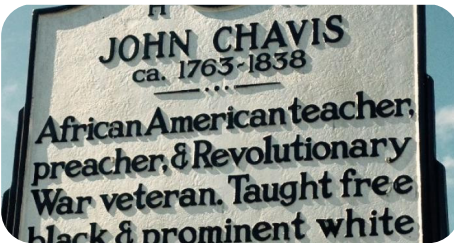


## Mystery Mavens Book Club

Tuesday, September 14 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 Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner. Our October book discussion will focus on *Bitter Blood* by Jerry Bledsoe.

## Black History Discussion Group

Wednesday, September 15 at 4 pm  
Main Library in Newton  
Businessmen and women, politicians, writers, entertainers, educators and activists: we're keeping it local this month to learn about prominent Black North Carolinians who left their mark on our state and communities. Register at [tinyurl.com/ccls-BHDG](https://tinyurl.com/ccls-BHDG) to receive an email with details about some of the folks we'll be talking about this month.



## Nutrition Powerhouses – Sprouts & MicroGreens DIY

Thursday, September 16 at 5:30 pm  
Main Library in Newton  
Join us to learn about the benefits of growing sprouts and microgreens and how to do so safely. Taste some samples and take home a kit with the supplies needed to quickly have a home harvest of sprouts and microgreens. Supplies are limited so registration is required at [tinyurl.com/ccls-PowerHouse](https://tinyurl.com/ccls-PowerHouse) or by calling 828-465-8665.

## Tech Take Apart

Saturday, September 18 at 10 am  
Main Library in Newton  
Ever wondered what the inside of a computer, keyboard or other technological device looks like? Here's your chance to find out! Recommended for students in grades 3 to 6. Register at [tinyurl.com/ccltechtakeapart](https://tinyurl.com/ccltechtakeapart) or by calling 828-465-8665.

**STEAM Saturdays @ ST: Dancing Popcorn**  
Saturday, September 18 at 3:00 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Who says science has to be serious? Come have fun with science as we learn about popcorn and apply scientific principles to make it dance for our amusement. For ages 7 & up. Space is limited, so register at [tinyurl.com/steamsaturdays](https://tinyurl.com/steamsaturdays) or call 828-466-6821.

## How Do I Eat This?

Monday, September 20 at 11 am  
Main Library in Newton  
Have you ever seen an item in the produce aisle and thought, What is that and how in the world do I eat it? Join us along with Cooperative Extension Family & Consumer Science Agent, Tina McGillvary for a presentation about some odd-looking fruits and veggies available to us. We'll learn about the origin, history, availability, preparation and health benefits of these foods while also having a taste! Space is limited so please register at [tinyurl.com/ccls-WeirdFood](https://tinyurl.com/ccls-WeirdFood) or by calling 828-465-8665.



## Honey Helps

Monday, September 20 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library  
Celebrate National Honey Month with us as we discover the health benefits of honey and the many variations along with samples and recipes to share. Sign up at the branch or call 828-466-6818.



## Japanese Culture Club

Monday, September 20 at 6:30 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Introducing a family-friendly event where each month we'll explore the amazing world of Japanese culture through crafts, calligraphy, games, and more! Join us for our first meeting where we'll learn how to write our first names in Japanese and make a simple origami name plate. For ages 8 and up. Space is limited, so register at [www.tinyurl.com/japanclubstst](https://www.tinyurl.com/japanclubstst) or call 828-466-6821.



### More Effective Masking DIY

Tuesday, September 21 at 10 am  
Main Library in Newton

Find out about best practices for masking according to the CDC and see a demo of a mask brace that keeps a mask in place, holding it away from your face and allowing better breathability. We'll also learn about a few ways to take advantage of mask filters – including a 'fake' filter that works just as well. We'll have patterns for filters on hand as well as two types of filter material that can be cut or sewn to fit inside the pocket of most masks designed for use with filters. Register at [tinyurl.com/ccls-MaskFilter](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-MaskFilter)

### Catawba Songwriters

Tuesday, September 21 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library

Come and share your talents while you learn from others. Bring a finished written song or one that's in progress to share with the group. Teens with musical talents are invited to join the group. Sign up at the branch or call 828-466-6818.



### STEAM: DIY Marble Wine Glass

Tuesday, September 21 at 6 pm  
Maiden Branch Library

Create your own marble wine glass! Get a brief overview on color theory and chemistry as we dip, paint, and roll our wine glasses into works of art. All supplies provided. Registration is required. Please call 828-428-2712 to register.

### Self-Improvement: Benefits of Journaling

Monday, September 27 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library

Celebrate National Self-Improvement Month by learning ways to cope with stress, negative thinking, and experience some of the benefits of journaling. Sign up at the branch or call 828-466-6818.



### The Self Care Project

Tuesday, September 28 at 1 pm  
Main Library in Newton

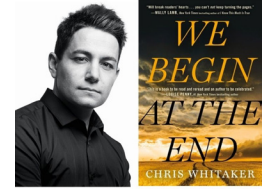
It's never too late to take good care of ourselves so for this second monthly gathering we'll welcome Wellness Dietician Renee Greene who will provide strategies for turning your nutrition goals into comfortable new habits. Register at [tinyurl.com/ccls-SelfCare](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-SelfCare)



### Books Between Friends Book Club

Tuesday, September 28 at 6 pm  
Claremont Branch Library

Our book club returns to in-person meetings in September, when we'll be discussing *We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker. Everyone is welcome. This group meets in alternating months.



## LIBRARY TO GO



### Library to Go at the Town of Catawba

Thursday, Sept 2 & 16 from 10 am-2 pm  
Redeemer Lutheran Church, ELCA

200 S Main St, Catawba  
Visit the Library to Go this month to check out books, get help with tech questions, and enjoy a family storytime at 10:45!



### Books & Baseball Llamas de Hickory

Friday, September 10 at 7 pm  
L. P. Frans Stadium

Come visit the Library to Go and chat about resources and upcoming events before heading inside the stadium to watch the Llamas play! In honor of Latinx culture this game will feature special hats and jerseys and tributes to the culture throughout the night. And don't forget the Fireworks!

### Library Outpost: Back to School Celebration

Saturday, September 18 from 11 am-3 pm  
2720 2nd Ave NW, Hickory

Come out to Clean Wave Laundry in Long View for family fun. We'll have free food, school supplies, an inflatable and more. It's going to be a great time and we hope to see you!



### Library Outpost: Suds & Stories

Sunday, September 19 from 2-5 pm  
Clean Wave Laundry, 2720 2nd Ave NW,  
Hickory, NC 28601

We're in Long View at Clean Wave Laundry! Stop by and check out books, enjoy activities, and get help with your technology, job applications, and resume questions.



### National Night Out

Wednesday, September 29 from 5-8 pm  
Long View Recreation Center

We're meeting first responders in Long View for free food, inflatables, train rides, and more fun! We can't wait to see you there!



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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