

transylvania
COUNTY LIBRARY

volume 35, no. 6
December 2024/January 2025

at the library

winter library challenge

December 2 - February 1

Join the Winter Library Challenge! All ages can participate. Pick up a challenge card at the Library beginning December 2, then read and play along with us all winter long! Return your completed card by February 1 and be entered in a prize raffle.



all things appalachia

SPEAKER SERIES

**watch & discuss on
early WNC
photographer
George Masa**

with Angelyn Whitmeyer

**Thursday, December 5
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

longer event time to show entire film

Watch the 90-minute movie biography "The Mystery of George Masa" about the Asian-American photographer who helped found the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Discuss his life and collected works afterward with moderator Angelyn Whitmeyer, founder of the George Masa Photograph Database



A monthly program series exploring the natural world, culture and history of the southern Appalachian region. First Thursday evenings of most months.

**pocahontas:
the rest of the story**

with Ken Gassman

**Thursday, January 2
6:00-7:00 pm**

The story of the Powhatan woman Pocahontas has been romanticized so that fact is difficult to separate from fiction. Presenter Ken Gassman, a direct descendant of Pocahontas, will share the newest discoveries in genealogical research about this significant historical figure.



Dear Community,

This is a good time of year to reflect with gratitude. The Transylvania County Library is a wonderful library, and that is possible because of our strong, supportive community. There are some folks I want to recognize for their exemplary contributions to the library.

David Watkins was appointed to the Library Board of Trustees in March 1993, and has continuously served in leadership roles on Library Boards since. For over thirty years, he has been a steadfast advocate for the library, helping shape the community's vision of what a library can be and wrangling funds and support to realize that vision. He understood that a library was more than a building – it could be a point of community pride, a source of hope, an opportunity to learn, gather and grow together. He also understood that a really nice building helps, and was a leader in the capital campaign that raised the funds for our current building. Our Library would not be what it is today without David Watkins. This summer, David “retired.” He stepped down as chair of the Library Foundation and switched to an honorary emeritus role. In December, David will be awarded a Library Advocate of the Year award by the NC Public Library Directors Association. David, congratulations and thank you!

I also want to thank the incredible crew of Friends of the Library volunteers who give their time to sell books to raise funds for library programs, both at the Second Story Book Store and at the annual sale. Unfortunately, due to Helene, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year's sale. You may not know, but the dates for the annual book sale are set nearly a year in advance to secure time in the busy Rogow Room. Before the sale opens to the public, there is an intensive week of set-up requiring several dozen volunteers. Set-up for this year's sale was scheduled to begin Saturday, September 28 (the day after the storm hit) and continue the following week (when the library was closed and access was unavailable). It was impossible to proceed as planned, and due to the busy room schedule and challenges with other logistics, rescheduling was not an option. Thank you to the volunteers who planned to work this sale. Fortunately, the Friends' Board is confident in its ability to support Library programs and services in the coming year. You can support their efforts by shopping at the book store (many of the books for the annual sale were moved there) or donating to the Friends.

I'll see you at the library!

Rishara Finsel, Library Director



a dickens of a christmas

with Dr. Elliot Engel

monday, december 9 • 7:00 pm • rogow room

With the publication of *A Christmas Carol* in 1843, Charles Dickens changed the way we now celebrate Christmas. Using anecdotes, analysis and large doses of humor, Dr. Elliot Engel will provide fascinating background on this most beloved holiday tale and its brilliant author.



noontime notions

tuesday, dec. 3 • noon
a winter journey
blue ridge ringers

This annual concert will feature many holiday favorites. The Blue Ridge Ringers are an advanced auditioned community handbell ensemble based in Hendersonville with members from throughout Western North Carolina. The group was founded in 1995 and they play five octaves of Malmark handbells and choir chimes.

tuesday, dec. 10 • noon
be joyful!
musicke antiqua

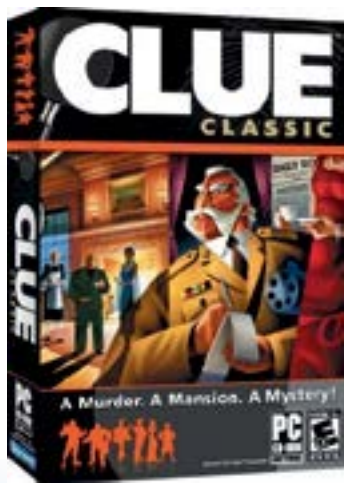
The “Be Joyful!” program consists of music from the 12th century to the 1926 hit “Hallelujah” by Vincent Youmans. The rest is a mixture of holiday, folk, Romantic and Renaissance songs. Musicke Antiqua is a 17 member musical ensemble that performs, in costume, on replica Renaissance instruments.



new CLASSIC games to checkout:

As the weather turns chilly, we thought it would be fun to break out our collection of classic board games, just in time for holiday gatherings. Remember these?

- boggle • mancala • yahtzee
- backgammon • hi ho cherry-o
- clue • life • sorry!
- risk • scrabble



North Carolina
humanities

nc reads continues!

NC Reads is NC Humanities' award-winning, statewide book club! Learn more and sign up on our website: library.transylvaniacounty.org/ncreads

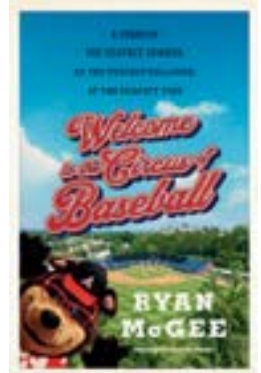
The following events have been rescheduled:

The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb

Discussion event: Dec. 3 • 6:00 pm
Books available now.

Welcome to the Circus of Baseball by Ryan McGee

Discussion event: Jan. 7 • 6:00 pm
Books available: December 2



NC Cooperative Extension & Transylvania County Library present:

living in the mountains

an educational series exploring the unique challenges and opportunities of living in the mountains of WNC

Understanding Wells & Septic Systems

Wednesday, January 15 • 12:00 pm • Rogow Room

Radon Mitigation

Wednesday, January 22 • 12:00 pm • Rogow Room

Erosion Control for Your Landscape

Wednesday, January 29 • 12:00 pm • Rogow Room

Identifying & Managing Invasive Species

Wednesday, February 5 • 12:00 pm • Rogow Room

Recreation for Older Adults

Wednesday, February 12 • 12:00 pm • Rogow Room



kid & teen activities



Teen Space Activity

Teens in grades 6-12 can stop by the Teen Space area and get creative with our monthly activities!

Winter Take & Make Series for Kids

Pick up a new take & make activity in December and January. Available at the Kids & Teens Desk all month long until they are gone! One per child per visit.

Tuesday Storytimes & Activity

10:00 am Babies & Toddlers (birth - 2 years)

10:30 am Activity Time

11:00 am Preschoolers (3-5 years)

Stories, songs, movement and more to build your child's early literacy skills. Activity Time weekly schedule:

- o 1st week of month: Building
- o 2nd week of month: Craft
- o 3rd week of month: Dance
- o 4th week of month: CLOSED in December, Art in January
- o 5th week in December: New Year's Craft

Paws & Pages

Wednesdays, December 4 & 18 • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, January 15 • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

On the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, children can drop in to the kids area and read aloud to a furry pal!

Book Nuts Book Club

Thursday, December 5 • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, January 9 • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Registration required

Kids age 6-9 will be reading "Recipe for Adventure: Naples!" by Giada De Laurentiis on December 5. They will be reading "The Year of the Dog" by Grace Lin on January 9. Pick up a book club copy at the Kids & Teens desk.

The North Carolina Arboretum's ecoEXPLORE Program: Mammalogy Season

Thursday, December 12 • 4:00 pm

Join us for an educational program with the North Carolina Arboretum to learn all about the many different types of mammals that call Western North Carolina their home! Come ready to hear about the ecoEXPLORE program, get up close and personal with some mammal artifacts such as skulls and skins, find out what makes a mammal a mammal, plus much more! This program is geared toward ages 5 to 13, but all ages are welcome.

Second Saturday Storytime & Craft

Saturday, December 14 & January 11

11:00 am Family Storytime (birth - 5 years)

11:30 am Craft Time

Stories, songs, movement and a craft to build your child's early literacy skills. Same theme and craft as Tuesday storytime.

Raving Readers Book Club

Monday, December 16 • 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Registration required

Kids ages 10-13 will be reading "Masterminds" by Gordon Korman. Sign up for the discussion and pick up a book club copy at the Kids & Teens Desk.

Out & About Storytime at

The Family Place - Rosman

Wednesday, December 18 • 11:00 am

Wednesday, January 15 • 11:00 am

Join us at The Family Place - Rosman on the 3rd Wednesday of the month for a family storytime (birth - 5 years).

LEGO® Night

Monday, December 23 • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • Medieval

Monday, January 27 • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • Robots

On the 4th Monday of the month, children in grades K-5 can enjoy creative play by building from the monthly theme or free building. The Library will supply the LEGO® bricks. Caregivers are encouraged to attend with their children.

Block Party

Thursday, January 2 • 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Drop-in to build with the Library's collection of blocks including LEGO® & Duplo® bricks, Keva® planks, and magnetic blocks! Unplug, meet up with friends, and enjoy the afternoon. All ages are welcome!

Family Fort Night and Read-in

Friday, January 10 • 6:00 pm

Registration required

Bring your fort-building materials, like sheets and blankets, to create a family reading oasis in the Library, after hours. A snack is provided.

Sewing Machine Workshop for Teens

Thursday, January 23 • 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Registration required

Teens in grades 6-12 can sign up to learn the basics of operating a sewing machine and make a customizable tote bag. Members of the WNC Quilter's Guild will give step-by-step instructions. Register by calling or visiting the Kids & Teens desk.

GetSet Transylvania's Family Dinner Series presents Creative Play

Monday, January 27 • 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Registration required

Join us for a free meal followed by an educational session for adults about creative play for young children. Childcare will be provided for kids who are 2 years & up and potty trained. Register soon through a link on the Library's webpage or GetSet's Facebook page.

more of the programs you love:

family history third thursday

Mini Workshop and Social Hour

Thursday, December 19 • Deeds, Wills & More
1:00 pm • North Carolina Room

Thursday, January 16 • Immigration Records
1:00 pm • North Carolina Room

Meet up with other genealogy enthusiasts for a 15 minute workshop highlighting a family history research resource, followed by time to share your finds, frustrations and family history journey of discovery.

ukulele circle

Thursday, December 12 • Holiday Songs
6:00 pm • Storytime Room

Thursday, January 9 • Stage & Screen
6:00 pm • Rogow Room

Join in and play with us! Bring your own ukulele or check one out with your library card.

yoga

Join us for yoga in the Rogow Room every Friday! Class starts at 9:30 am, and instructor Clare Desmelik will lead the series. This class is free and open to all ages and experience levels. *Please note the change in location for December and January.*

chess mates

Monday, December 9 • 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Monday, January 13 • 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Do you like to play chess? Looking for a partner to play with? Come to our monthly open chess play! We will have chess boards set out on the main floor of the library. Pick a board, play with a friend (new or old!) or observe a game in action. All ages and levels are welcome to play.

cookbook club

Friday, December 13 • Cookie Swap!
12:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Nov. 15

Friday, January 10 • *Moosewood Cookbook*
12:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Dec. 20

Registered participants can stop by the library to pick up a copy of the book and choose a recipe to make and share with the other participants. We'll taste each other's culinary creations, talk about the cookbook, share what we learned and swap recipes.
Space is limited & registration is required.

craft connection

Tuesday, January 28 • Paint By Numbers
6:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Jan. 2

We'll explore a different craft technique at each of these programs. Each session includes light instruction and a bit of guidance as you explore your creative side. These programs are for adults and
registration is required.



Won't you be a Friend?

A \$15.00 contribution entitles you to a year's membership; however, the generosity of your contribution determines the extent of assistance the Friends can provide to the Library. Membership contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please mail your check (payable to Friends of the Library) and this form to: *Friends of the Library, 212 S. Gaston St., Brevard, NC 28712.* Or, drop off this form at the Library any time!

PLEASE include your name, mailing address, email address, and phone number on the reverse side.

- Yes!** I want to be a **Friend of the Library** with my \$15 annual contribution.
- Yes!** I would like to **make an additional donation** to further support the Friends of the Library's mission in the amount of \$_____. **Total enclosed \$_____.** **Thank you for your generosity!**

Want to join or renew online? Want to donate to the Friends of the Library?

Visit library.transylvaniacounty.org/fol

library hours

212 South Gaston Street
Brevard, NC 28712
828.884.3151

Monday 9:30 am - 8:00 pm
Tuesday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Wednesday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Thursday 9:30 am - 8:00 pm
Friday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sunday closed

NC Room is closed on Saturdays.

Bookmobile schedule is online.

find us online

website:

library.transylvaniacounty.org

facebook:

@transylvaniacountylibrary

instagram:

@TCLibraryNC



The Book Store is open
Monday - Friday from
9:30 am - 4:00 pm.
It will be closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 1.



NEW!
download the
myLIBRO app
and bring the library with
you wherever you go!

- Keep your library card in a digital wallet
- Manage your library account (and your kids) in one place
- Place holds on books and materials
- Receive notifications when materials are ready for pickup
- Learn about library events, new arrivals and more



Friends of the Library
book donations
will resume on Mondays
from 10:00 am to noon,
beginning January 6, 2025.

Shop with the Friends of the Library
online! Scan the QR code to visit
our Amazon & eBay stores:



The Library newsletter is made
possible by the
Friends of the Library.
Won't you be a Friend?