

transylvania
COUNTY LIBRARY

volume 37, no. 1
February/March 2026

at the library



with your
transylvania county
library card

Get ready to explore!

We've teamed up with local attractions to offer free admission for library card holders with a ZOOM pass.

how does it work?

- 📍 Reserve a free ZOOM pass on our website
- 📍 Pick up your pass at the Library
- 📍 Grab your family or friends and have fun!



Museum of the
Cherokee People

**new in
2026**



Join us for a
Special Concert with
Asian Soundscapes

February 14 • 12:00 pm
Rogow Room



Dear Community,

When we think about health, we often think first about doctors, medicine, and hospitals. But research shows that our health is shaped just as much by everyday factors: social connection, access to information, opportunities to move our bodies, creative outlets and a sense of belonging. These are often called the social determinants of health, and they're deeply connected to the work of the library.

Libraries are, at their heart, community spaces. They are places where people come not just to learn, but to connect, to feel welcomed and to be part of something larger than themselves. That sense of connection matters. Loneliness and social isolation can have real impacts on physical and mental health. Creating opportunities for people to gather, share and feel seen is one way we support community wellbeing.

That idea is woven into many of our programs, from weekly yoga and our healthy Mediterranean eating series, to social

gatherings like Mending Circle and book groups, to our seed catalog. These programs offer more than skills or entertainment; they create routine, foster relationships, encourage exploration and provide welcoming spaces where people can show up as they are.

In February, we're especially excited to introduce a new Memory Cafe, developed in consultation with local Alzheimer's Association representatives. This social gathering involves a simple activity, but the heart of the program is connection: time together in a supportive, non-clinical, judgment-free environment. There is currently nothing else quite like this in our community, and we're honored to help start to fill the gap.

As we move toward spring, I'm grateful to be part of a community that understands health in this broader, more human way, and to serve in a place where connection is always at the center.

I'll see you at the library!

Rishara Finsel, Library Director



Memory Cafe

Monday, February 9th • 10:30 am
Rogow Room

A one-hour social gathering for those experiencing early-stage Alzheimer's, dementia or memory loss, and for their accompanying care partners. We will work on a crafting project using collage techniques.
Light refreshments provided. Registration required.



all things appalachia

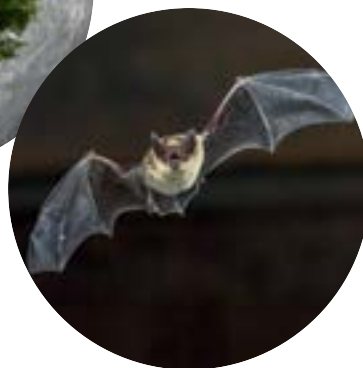
a monthly speaker series

moon trees: 55 years of living history

with author
Carolyn Bennett Fraiser

Thursday, February 5
6 - 7 pm
Rogow Room

Learn about the 500 seeds that flew to the moon on Apollo 14 and the "moon trees" they became. All ages.



beneficial bats

with Pam Torlina of
Conserving Carolina

Thursday, March 5
6 - 7 pm
Rogow Room

Explore the species of bats found in North Carolina and the benefits they provide humans.

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!

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:

- 1st week of the month: Building
- 2nd week of month: Craft
- 3rd week of month: Dance
- 4th week of month: Art
- March 5th week of month: Bingo

Cocoa & Crafts

Monday, February 2 • 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Warm up with some hot cocoa while making crafts during this drop-in event! We will have three crafts to choose from – make one or make them all! This program is recommended for kids ages 3 & up.

Paws & Pages

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

Wednesdays, March 4 & 18 • 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!

Out & About Storytime at The Family Place - Rosman

Thursday, February 5 • 11:00 am

Thursday, March 5 • 11:00 am

Join us at The Family Place - Rosman on the 1st Thursday of February, March and April for a family Storytime (birth - 5 years).

Raving Readers

Monday, February 9 • 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Registration required

Kids ages 10-13 will be reading "The Fog Diver" by Joel Ross. Sign up for the discussion and pick up a book club copy at the Kids & Teens Desk.

The North Carolina Arboretum's ecoEXPLORE Program: Ornithology

Thursday, February 12 • 4:00 pm

Join us for an educational program with the North Carolina Arboretum to learn all about the different types of birds that call Western NC their home! We'll also venture out on a bird walk, learn how to use binoculars, search for evidence of birds, and even learn some bird calls! This program is geared for ages 5 to 13.

Second Saturday Storytime & Craft

Saturday, February 14

Saturday, March 14

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.

LEGO® Night:

Monday, February 23 • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • Book Scene

Monday, March 23 • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • Hybrid Animal

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.

GetSet Transylvania's Family Dinner Series presents Safe Technology at Transylvania County Parks and Recreation

Monday, February 23 • 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Registration required

Join us for a free meal followed by an educational session for adults on keeping kids safe in today's digital world. Childcare will be provided for kids who are 18 months and older. Register through a link on the Library's webpage.

Book Nuts Book Club

Thursday, March 5 • 4:00 pm

Registration required

Kids age 6-9 can register for the discussion and pick up a book club copy "The Wild Robot" by Peter Brown at the Kids & Teens desk.

Teddy Bear Tea Party

Friday, March 6 • 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm

Registration required

Bring your favorite stuffed animal for a party at the Library! Create a paper teacup for your stuffie, learn a bit of etiquette, and sip some tea and enjoy a snack while listening to a story. Then grab your stuffie as we end the party with a little dancing! This program is for kids in grades Kindergarten to 3rd grade and their caregivers.

WNC Nature Center: Run, Slither, Swim

Thursday, March 26 • 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Registration required

Let's have some fun with the WNC Nature Center! There are a lot of different types of animals in this world, and they all move in special ways! We'll be slithering, fluttering, and crawling around the room in animal fashion, discovering an author who writes about how animals travel, and meeting a special animal guest in this program focusing on movement styles, restrictions, and abilities of various animals. Caregivers register your kid(s) ages 3-6, for this animal adventure.



The Transylvania County Seed Library returns February 2!

The Seed Library is a collection of seeds that you can take from to plant and grow at home. Stop by and see what's in stock!



medicare 101

Monday, March 30 • 10:30 am • Rogow Room

Are you new to Medicare? There's a lot to learn! Join us, along with NC Cooperative Extension and the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP), March 30 to learn how Medicare works, the enrollment process, how to avoid penalties and ways to save money.



eating the mediterranean way

Cooperative Extension agent Erin Massey will lead this free, six-part series exploring wellness through nutrition, mindfulness and Mediterranean cooking. Each class includes a cooking demonstration and taste testing of simple, delicious recipes. Space is limited and registration for each session is required. Come to one session, or all of them! Registration opens online Feb. 3rd.

Mediterranean Eating

Feb. 24
1:00 pm

All About Protein

March 3
1:00 pm

The Good Fats

March 10
1:00 pm

Fruits & Veggies

March 17
1:00 pm

Whole Grains

March 24
1:00 pm

Rethinking Sweets

March 31
1:00 pm

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

Building a Home Emergency Kit

Wednesday, February 4 • 12:00 pm
Rogow Room

Gardening & Growing Food in Mountain Soil

Wednesday, February 11 • 12:00 pm
Rogow Room



new games are available for checkout!

We have new games available for checkout in our Library of Things! Some of the newest additions include:

catan • really loud librarians
disney villains • skyjo
hues and cues • carcassonne
and more!



more of the programs you love:

genealogy meetup

Thursday, February 19
Ai for Family History Research
1:00 pm • North Carolina Room

Thursday, March 19
Organizing Genealogy Research
1:00 pm • North Carolina Room

Meet up with other family history enthusiasts to learn about and discuss genealogy topics.

ukulele circle

Thursday, February 12 • Love Songs
6:00 pm • Rogow Room

Thursday, March 12 • The '60s
6:00 pm • Rogow Room

Join in and play with a group! Music packets available in advance at the Circulation desk.

mending circle

Thursday, February 19 • 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Thursday, March 19 • 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Join us for a casual get-together as we work to repair favorite clothing items in need of a little TLC. Bring an item that requires fixing for guidance.

Shiloh Broadway, our handy facilitator, will guide us through the process of mending old garments and preventing them from ending up in the landfill.

craft connection

Tuesday, February 24 • Stamped Clay Bowls
6:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Feb. 2

Tuesday, March 24 • Leather Belts
6:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens March 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*.

chess mates

Monday, February 9 • 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Monday, March 9 • 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, February 13 • *Tiffany Cooks*
12:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Jan. 12

Friday, March 13 • *Gluten-Free Cookbook*
12:00 pm • Rogow Room • Registration opens Feb. 17

Registered participants can stop by the library to review a copy of the books 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*.

yoga

Join us for yoga at the library every Friday morning! Class starts at 9:30 am in the Rogow Room, and instructor Clare Desmelik leads the series. This class is free and open to all ages and experience levels.

Join staff for a one hour, behind-the-scenes tour of the library! February 11 & March 11 at 3:30 pm in the library foyer.



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 closures: monday, feb. 16



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.

The book store is now open for
evening hours on Thursday's from
9:30 am - 7:00 pm.

all things appalachia extra!

a monthly speaker series

rising above helene: western north carolina's journey to recovery

Watch and discuss the documentary film by
100 Strong productions and the NC Assoc. of County
Commissioners which tells stories of the resilience
and recovery of WNC residents in the aftermath of
Hurricane Helene's destruction.

Tuesday, March 17
6 - 7:30 pm
Rogow Room



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



visit us at:

Kindergarten Readiness Rally

Transylvania
Recreation Department
Thursday, March 26
4:00 - 6:00 pm



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