# Library Connections

MARCH 2025

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## A HISTORY OF THE CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY

**1932** — **FUNDRAISING FOR FIRST LIBRARY BEGINS**

Fundraising efforts were started with a $25 appropriation from the American Legion Auxiliary (Newton Unit 16).

**1936** — **FIRST LIBRARY OPENS**
**FIRST LIBRARIAN**

- The first library opened in Downtown Newton on the Square.
- Miss Challie Brandon Hall served as the first librarian.
- The current location of the Main Library in Newton opened in 1976.

**1938** — **FIRST BOOKMOBILE**

To serve rural Catawba County, a school bus was transformed into the library's first bookmobile.

**1948** — **MAIDEN BRANCH OPENS**

**1975** — **SHERRILLS FORD BRANCH OPENS**

**1989** — **ST. STEPHENS BRANCH OPENS**

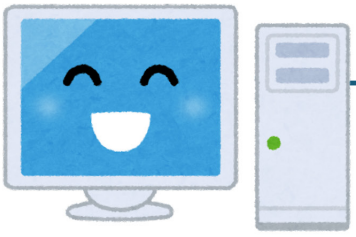
**1997** — **CONOVER BRANCH OPENS**

**1999** — **SOUTHWEST BRANCH OPENS**

**2002** — **CLAREMONT BRANCH OPENS**

**1996** — **PUBLIC ACCESS INTERNET BEGINS**

Internet access transformed libraries into community hubs.



**2019** — **LIBRARY TO GO BEGINS SERVICE**

This mobile branch provides a wide variety of books, technology, services, and programming to underserved communities, events, and nonprofit agencies.

# CHILDREN 0-5

**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*

***Fridays, March 7 & 21 at 10 am***
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*

This sweet, simple, 20-minute story time features rhymes, bounces, sensory play, and singing for our youngest learners.

**Ready to Learn Storytime: Sensory-Friendly** R
*Wednesdays at 11 am*
*Main Library in Newton*
Join us for a fun, sensory-friendly storytime for neurodivergent children and their siblings! Enjoy songs, sensory play, crafts, and stories designed for a small group of 10, creating a calm, welcoming space. Afterward, stay for free play to encourage socialization & motor skills.

**Pre-K STEAM**
Children and their grownups are invited to explore interactive play stations to build confidence in learning.

***Saturday, March 1 at 10 am***
*Claremont Branch Library*

***Tuesday, March 4 at 10 am***
*Main Library in Newton*

***Friday, March 14 at 10 am***
*St. Stephens Branch Library*

***Tuesday, March 18 at 2:30 pm***
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*

**Tuesday, March 25 at 4 pm**
*Southwest Branch Library*

**Paws to Read** R
*Tuesday, March 11*
*by appointment*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Encourage your young reader by reading with a certified therapy dog.

**Tales in the Garden: Ambulance Explorers**
*Wednesday, March 26 at 5:30 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
Families are invited to enjoy bilingual stories, fun crafts, meet real EMTs, and explore an ambulance up close. A great opportunity for learning and hands-on fun!

**Bilingual Storytime**
*Friday, March 28 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.

# CHILDREN 6-11

**Homeschool – STEAM Fun**
*Tuesday, March 4 at 1 pm*
*Southwest Branch Library*
Make your very own ice cream using simple ingredients and a bit of science magic.

**A Limitless Cinderella Story**
Don't miss this performance by Limitless, a troupe of exceptional actors and actresses.

***Tuesday, March 4 at 4:30 pm***
*Main Library in Newton*

***Tuesday, March 11 at 4:30 pm***
*Conover Branch Library*

**Lego Club**
*Wednesday, March 5 at 10 am*
*Maiden Branch Library*
Build, make and play as we explore our creativity through Legos. We will have free play and our monthly Lego challenge will be to create a rainbow, pot of gold, or shamrock to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

**Homeschool Hangout**
*Thursday, March 6 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.

**PomPom Pals**
*Thursday, March 6 at 4:30 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Learn how to make PomPoms and then use them to design your own creature.

**St. Patrick's Day Challenge**
*Saturday, March 15 at 10 am*
*Conover Branch Library*
Join us for an active day filled with St. Patrick's fun!

**Shrinky Dinks**
*Thursday, March 20 at 4 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Turn your designs into charms and keychains.

**Spring Crafternoon**
*Thursday, March 20 from 4 to 6 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
Celebrate the first day of Spring with craft projects selected for the season.

**The Green Room Community Theatre presents: *BETWEEN (the) LINES***
Experience a captivating original production written by Jared Wachsmuth, showcasing talented young performers in grades 2-12, that can only be seen during the Library Tour Adventure.

***Saturday, March 22 at 11 am***
*Maiden Branch Library*

***Saturday, March 29 at 11 am***
*Main Library in Newton*

# TEENS 12-18

**DIY Clay Minis**
*Tuesday, March 4 at 4:30 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Join us as we create all things mini using airdry clay.

**Teen Craft Day!**
*Tuesday, March 4 at 6 pm*
*Conover Branch Library*
Make your very own keychain with us!

**Mario Madness**
*Tuesday, March 11 at 5 pm*
*Southwest Branch Library*
Start your engines and get ready for our FOURTH annual Mario Kart tournament on our Nintendo Switch consoles! Bring your A-game and be sure to avoid those banana peels!

**Teen Night: Origami**
*Wednesday, March 12 at 4:30 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Fold, create, and unwind! Join us for Teen Night as we explore the art of origami. Make something cool!

**Plant a Flower Day**
*Wednesday, March 12 at 5 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
Celebrate flowers with us. We'll paint flower pots, plant flowers, and learn how to send messages with flowers.

# ADULTS

**Zumba Mondays!**
*Mondays at 6 pm*
*(No class on March 10)*
*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 needed for 14-17).

**Computer Basics Class** R
*Tuesdays at 1 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Join us each Tuesday in March to learn the basics of using computers! We'll cover topics like updating a computer, saving and moving files, keyboard tips, and more!

**Purl and Chain**
*Tuesdays at 6 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Make new friends and enjoy the company of others while you knit and crochet. A new crochet stitch will be featured each week. Don't miss out on the fun!

**Gentle Flow Yoga**
*Fridays 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.

**Mindful Movement**
*Fridays at 3 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Low impact exercise and gentle stretching for all ages.

**Oscar Trivia Night**
*Monday, March 3 at 6 pm*
*Southwest Branch Library*
We're rolling out the red carpet for a night of movie trivia and Hollywood glamour! Light refreshments will be served and bonus points awarded to those who arrive dressed to impress.

**Career Center**
*Wednesday, March 5 from 1 - 4 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
Whether you need to write a resume from scratch, showcase new skills or experience, or show how your return to the workforce after an absence is actually an asset, you can reserve a 30-minute appointment or drop in as you are able.

**Computer Basics at Newton** R
*Thursdays, March 6, 13, & 20 at 11 am*
*Main Library in Newton*
Learn the basics of using computers, including using the keyboard and mouse, saving files, and performing updates. Series will continue into April for a six-week course.

**Qi Gong**
*Saturday, March 8 at 9:30 am*
*Main Library in Newton*
Involving gentle movements, controlled breath patterns, and focused attention, Qi Gong can be a great practice for those new to movement.

**Mystery Mavens Book Club**
*Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Join us for a lively discussion on *All the Colors of the Dark* by Chris Whitaker.

**Chair Yoga**
*Wednesdays, March 12 & 26 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 poses while seated or using a chair for balance.

**Seeing the Signs: Workshop on Healthy Relationships**
*Wednesday, March 12 at 5 pm*
*125 3rd St. NE, Hickory, NC 28601*
Learn about the difference between healthy, unhealthy, and abusive relationships, and how to spot red flags, at this presentation at the Women's Resource Center by the library's Community Navigator.

**Needle Felting**
*Thursday, March 13 at 4 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Explore the textile art of needle felting as we create a plant friend. Finger protectors will be available for participants to use. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-6827.

**Adult Children of Aging Parents: Anxiety & Depression in Older Adults**
*Thursday, March 13 at 5:30 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
Learn about recognizing and managing anxiety and depression in older adults, particularly when apparent symptoms may be the result of medication or sleep issues. Pick up tips for communicating with loved ones and professionals to effectively manage symptoms.

**Community Garden Volunteer Days**
*Saturdays, March 15 & 29*
*from 9 - 11 am*
*Main Library in Newton*
We're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with tasks such as weeding, mulching, and planting in the garden. Whether you're a gardening expert or just starting out, all ages and experience levels are welcome.

**Shelf-Care Book Club**
*Monday, March 17 at 6 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Treat yourself to the best kind of self-care: a good book! Our March book is *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach.

**Mountain View Book Club**
*Monday, March 17 at 6 pm*
*Southwest Branch Library*
Join us to discuss *Go As A River* by Shelley Read. All are welcome.

**CPR/AED Training**
*Tuesday, March 18 at 5:30 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Please join us for a non-certification Hands-Only Emergency CPR and AED training for adults and children.

**Mindfulness Yoga** R
*Tuesday, March 18 at 6 pm*
*Conover Branch Library*
Join us for a mindfulness class designed to help you unwind and reconnect, followed by gentle movement that leads into meditation. Bring a yoga mat or blanket.

**Free Digital Entertainment**
*Tuesday, March 18 at 6 pm*
*Southwest Branch Library*
With so many digital subscriptions available, the cost to enjoy your favorite shows & movies can add up. Learn about free digital entertainment, including library offerings!

**Introduction to Candid - Foundation Directory Online** R
*Wednesday, March 19 at 5:30 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
The library offers access to the Candid/FDO grants database to help you find funding opportunities. Learn a few tips and tricks so that you can make the most of your time searching for possible funders. Open to employees or volunteers of any existing nonprofit.

**Newton Book Club**
*Thursday, March 20 at 5 pm*
*Carpe Crustum in Downtown Newton*
Join us to talk about March's pick *Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books* by Kirsten Miller. Get ahead with April's selection, *The Road to the Country* by Chigozie Obioma.

**Nature Walk**
*Saturday, March 22 at 10 am*
*Conover Branch Library*
Join us for the first walk of spring! Families will be able to decorate their own hiking stick while enjoying nature!

**More in My Basket** R
*Tuesday, March 25*
*at 1 pm and 6 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
A food specialist from NC Cooperative Extension will be here to discuss how to develop a versatile pantry, create a food budget that works for your family, track your food supply, build a menu, track your expenses, and more.

**Local Author Visit: Susan Amond Todd**
*Tuesday, March 25 at 5:30 pm*
*Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library*
Join us as we welcome NC author Susan Amond Todd for an author discussion and book signing for her completed *White Lake* duology and ongoing *Life* series. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

R **Please visit or call the library to register.**

**Books Between Friends Book Club**
*Tuesday, March 25 at 6 pm*
*Claremont Branch Library*
Join us for a discussion of David Baldacci's *A Calamity of Souls*. This New York Times bestselling novel is part high-octane legal thriller, part heart-breaking family drama. Newcomers are welcome.

**Silent Book Club**
*Tuesday, March 25 at 6 pm*
*Conover Branch Library*
Join us for a cozy, relaxing evening! Bring your own book or select one from our collection, and enjoy live, calming music from Ava Pendley. Sip on coffee or hot chocolate as you unwind with great company—it's the perfect way to end your day!

**Catawba County Genealogical Society**
*Tuesday, March 25 at 6:30 pm*
*Main Library in Newton, Rhodes Room*
Check out new local history and genealogy materials available for research! All are welcome to attend.

**Creative Outlet: Spring Wreaths**
*Wednesday, March 26 at 6 pm*
*Main Library in Newton*
This bright and colorful take on a standard wreath may be just what the designer ordered to spark joy and freshen up your entryway for spring.

**Resume Revamp** R
*Monday, March 31 at 6 pm*
*St. Stephens Branch Library*
Learn some tips and tricks to make your resume stand out to employers!