

# Library Connections

October 2021



**catawba county**  
library system

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828.465.8664



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

## INTRODUCING CAROLYN SMITH COMMUNITY NAVIGATOR

The Catawba County Library welcomes Carolyn Smith, a student from the Appalachian State University Department of Social Work who will be working at the Main Library in Newton as a Community Navigator this semester. Each week, Carolyn will work Monday through Thursday, reaching out to individuals who may need help figuring out how to get connected to various assistance programs in our area. She will play a crucial role in strengthening our communities by working with local organizations to expand access and reach more people, especially those in more vulnerable populations.

The Community Navigator program was established in August 2020 after the library observed a substantial increase in the number of people seeking help to complete hiring paperwork, apply for stimulus checks, and print proof of eligibility for support. In helping individuals, library staff observed that these tasks can be very complicated and frustrating for everyone. Hence the need for community navigators, someone with a thorough understanding of all the resources in the community — agencies, churches, shelters, organizations and what they have to offer, eligibility requirements, whom to talk to, when to visit, if an appointment is needed, how to apply, and required documents.

Last year over 2,000 people in Catawba County reached out to NC 211, an online information and referral service provided by the United Way of North Carolina. Community navigators serve as an in-person 211 assistance helping people figure out what is available to them and how to obtain it.

Carolyn is excited to pick up where last year's interns left off and has already begun the work, meeting people, assessing their most immediate needs, and referring them to community resources when possible. She says "I try to be good at listening and it helps when meeting people from all walks of life. I look forward to talking to people, encouraging and helping them through the process. Connecting people to whatever they need is the most important thing that I can do." Carolyn is taking time to visit local agencies to meet providers and learn about all the different services they offer, so that she can help smooth the way for those in need. Acting as a personal guide, Carolyn will help level the playing field for disadvantaged individuals and work to eliminate barriers to service by steering vulnerable people to available resources more quickly and efficiently. When a person is in crisis mode they are already stressed and even the smallest task such as typing in a website or making a phone call can seem insurmountable. By having a Community Navigator who can provide empathy and understanding, and who can help guide individuals to making more informed decisions about their own situations, the library can help increase that person's opportunity to succeed.

This project allows the library to strengthen our capacity to connect people to essential resources and to empower library staff to provide exceptional programs and services. It expands our community's access to resources for learning and success in school, work, and life by engaging in a deeper and more meaningful way to meet patrons in need where they are without judgment or stigma.



# STORYTIME

## Live Preschool Storytime via Zoom

*Tuesdays, October 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 6:30 pm*

Gather the kids and join us for a live, interactive preschool storytime! This family-friendly virtual event includes 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 email confirmation with a Zoom link.



## Live Preschool Storytime via Zoom

*Thursdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 10 am*

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

## Library to Go in the Town of Catawba

*Thursdays, Oct 7 & 21 from 10 am-2 pm*

*Redeemer Lutheran Church, ELCA  
200 S Main St*

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.

## Spooktacular Storytime & Costume Swap

*Saturday, October 9 from 3 - 5:30 pm*

*St. Stephens Branch Library*

Come kick off the Halloween season with a fun-filled afternoon at your library! Browse for a costume and/or donate your gently used one at our costume swap, then enjoy a special outdoor Halloween storytime featuring a pumpkin decorating craft. The costume swap will be open to all during event hours but space for the storytime and craft is limited, so please register at [tinyurl.com/stspooktacular](https://tinyurl.com/stspooktacular) or by calling 828-466-6821.

## Tales in the Garden

*Monday, October 18 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 October program will be about Fall Fun! Please bring your own blanket or camp chair.

## Sky High Storytime

*Friday, October 22 at 10:30 am*

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

Join us at the Aviation Museum located at the Hickory Regional airport for a specially themed storytime! We'll read fun books, sing songs, and complete a cool craft. This month we'll get into the Halloween spirit with UFOs and aliens. Kids of all ages welcome! Register at [tinyurl.com/skyhighstorytime](https://tinyurl.com/skyhighstorytime) or by calling 828-466-6821.



# ONLINE PROGRAMS

## Financial Literacy

*Tuesday, October 5 at 10 am*

In this workshop led by a HOPE Financial Wellbeing Coach you will learn the basics of making a budget, how to read a credit report, and about how to correct errors that may negatively affect your credit rating. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs> and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you.



## ESL Class

*Wednesdays, Oct 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 6 pm*

*Main Library in Newton*

Practice speaking English with us on Wednesday evenings! This is a one-hour online Zoom conversation for students that would like to gain more confidence in speaking English. Please call 828.465.8664 to register or for more information.

## Expungement

*Thursday, October 7 at 10 am*

Do you or someone you know qualify? Learn what you need to know from NCWorks Catawba about having charges removed from criminal records. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs> and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you.



## Resumes 101

*Tuesday, October 12 at 2 pm*

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



## Soft Skills / Customer Service

*Tuesday, October 19 at 10 am*

Learn the soft skills you need to provide excellent customer service. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs> and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you.



## The Walking Dead Virtual Teen Trivia Night

*Monday, October 25 at 6 pm*

Are you ready to fight the dead with your knowledge of walkers? Join us for a virtual Walking Dead Trivia Night LIVE via Zoom. We're inviting up to 25 teens and their households to join us. Please visit [tinyurl.com/WDTrivia](https://tinyurl.com/WDTrivia) to register. A zoom link will be sent to you. Winners will get prizes and WD cosplay is encouraged! (For the best experience, we recommend connecting two devices - one for Kahoot and the other for Zoom. You can install the Kahoot app in advance or use the web-based version.)

## Interviewing

*Tuesday, October 26 at 10 am*

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

## Telescopes

*Tuesday, October 26 at 6:30 pm*

Learn about NASA's James Webb Space Telescope and the wonders it will explore with a guest scientist. Discover how space telescopes break down light and view images captured by space telescopes. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/CCL-Telescopes](https://tinyurl.com/CCL-Telescopes) or call 828-465-8665.



## Job Applications

*Thursday, October 28 at 2 pm*

Learn tips from NCWorks Catawba on how to complete a job application to get you the interview. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/catawbajobs> and complete the form. A zoom link will be sent to you.



# 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 their standard business hours, and heirlooms are especially welcome. Please package and label any donations you drop off. Seeds may also be borrowed from the Main Library in Newton. They're subject to availability and cannot be reserved.

## Postcards for Seniors - Kindness Project

October 1 - 30  
Main Library in Newton  
We're celebrating World Postcard Day all month! Stop by the Youth Services desk to design a postcard to brighten a senior adult's day. You design the postcard and leave it with us; we'll take care of the rest.

## Homework Helpers

Mondays, Thursday, and Saturdays  
Main Library in Newton  
Our 30-minute homework help sessions are available by appointment. Please call 828-465-8665 for more information or to schedule a session for your student.

## Technology Tutoring

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
in October from Noon - 1 pm  
Conover Branch Library  
Need help setting up an email? Want to learn how to use eBooks? Drop in to the Conover Branch for a 20-minute one-on-one session to get your technology questions answered! Bring your device and any relevant usernames and passwords.

## Flu Shot Clinic

Tuesday, October 5 from 1 pm - 4 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
The Council on Aging is hosting this flu shot clinic by appointment only with both regular-dose shots and high-dose flu shots for seniors. Pneumonia shots will also be available. Call the Council on Aging at 828-328-2269 to make an appointment or ask any questions.

## First Lego League Jr Robotics Club

Mondays, Oct 11-Dec 13 at 4:30 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Youth STEAM lovers will build, create, problem solve, and use technology as they complete a Boomtown Build. This program is offered in collaboration with 4-H and STEM West. To participate please apply online at <https://go.ncsu.edu/libraryrobotics> or stop by the St. Stephens Branch Library to receive your registration information.



## Brushes that Bloom

Monday, October 11 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library  
Adults are invited to pick up a paint brush and enjoy the art of painting. Monica Pagnini-Ibarra, local painter, will lead a flower painting adventure. In celebration of Latinx Heritage Month, this stress reducing event will highlight generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our society. Space is limited and registration is required. Call 828-466-6818 to register or visit the SW Branch and speak with a librarian.

## Theme-Based Book Club

Monday, October 11 at 6:30 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Join us for this monthly in-person event where you can gather with fellow book lovers and discuss books based around a common theme. This month's theme is --scary stories so reread a favorite or find something new and come share your reading experience with us. Although this is an in-person event, patrons can still utilize the Facebook group for updates, book lists, and ongoing discussion by following this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/St.StephensBookClub/>.

## STEAM: Pumpkin Chuckin'

Tuesday, October 12 at 4:30 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
In this engineering and design project, kids will be guided to create their own mini catapults out of popsicle sticks, which they'll use to launch candy pumpkins. Then they'll compete against each other to see who can launch the candy the farthest.

## Mystery Mavens Book Club

Tuesday, October 12 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 Bitter Blood by Jerry Bledsoe. Our November book discussion will focus on Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger. No registration required.

## Ghost Stories with Tim Starnes

Friday, October 15 at 7 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Come learn about haunted history with paranormal author and investigator Tim Starnes who will share his knowledge of local supernatural lore in a fun and engaging way. The program is designed to be family friendly but some parts may be a little scary for younger children. Register at [tinyurl.com/stghoststories](http://tinyurl.com/stghoststories) or by calling 828-466-6821.

## Teen Movie Event - Hocus Pocus

Saturday, October 16 at 3 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Celebrate spooky season with an afternoon of fun at your library! Enjoy a showing of the Halloween favorite Hocus Pocus complete with snacks and an awesome fall-inspired paint craft. Register at [tinyurl.com/HocusPocusCraft](http://tinyurl.com/HocusPocusCraft) or by calling 828-466-6821. Masks are required. For ages 12-18.

## TEENTOBER - Harry Potter Trivia

Monday, October 18 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library  
In celebration of TeenTober, teens and pre-teens are welcome to join the library for an evening of Harry Potter Trivia. Snacks and prizes will be provided! Space is limited and registration is required. Call 828-466-6818 to register or visit the branch.



## Japanese Culture Club

Monday, October 18 at 6:30 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Introducing a family-friendly event where each month we'll discover the amazing world of Japanese culture through origami, calligraphy, games, and more! This month we'll explore Japanese supernatural folklore, learn how to write ghost in Japanese, and make origami ghosts. All ages welcome, but children younger than 8 may need parental assistance with some activities. Register at [tinyurl.com/japaneseclubstst](http://tinyurl.com/japaneseclubstst) or by calling 828-466-6821.

## Spooky STEAM

Tuesday, October 19 at 6 pm  
Conover Branch Library  
Calling all mad scientists! Enjoy the science and creative process behind the vanishing of ghostly ghosts and reviving eerie electric eels! This program is ideal for kids 5-10 years old. Registration is required. Call 828-466-5108 to sign up.

## Just Breathe: Meditation for Stress Relief

Tuesday, October 19 at 6 pm  
Maiden Branch Library  
Don't think you can meditate? Join us as certified yoga instructor Kacy Steiger leads us through a beginner friendly guided meditation class. We will also discuss the differing techniques and benefits of meditating. Accessible to all, but encouraged to bring a yoga mat or towel and a small blanket.



### Catawba Songwriters

Tuesday, October 19 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 and tweens with musical talents are invited to join the group.

### Black History Discussion Group

Wednesday, October 20 at 4 pm  
Main Library in Newton

This month we're learning more about African American food culture, an aspect of African American identity that, "like DNA, represents an unbroken line from Africa to present-day America." We'll learn about facets of our fusion food culture that are often overlooked or misrepresented. Take a look at the video: [tinyurl.com/ccls-CookingGene](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-CookingGene) or read this brief article about African American chefs at [tinyurl.com/ccls-AAChefs](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-AAChefs) to get a head start on the topic.

### Car Shopping for Teens

Thursday, October 21 at 5:30 pm  
Main Library in Newton; Lower Parking Lot

Teens, are you dreaming about buying a car? Join automotive instructor, Rob Kuczynski, to learn more about what you should look for when buying a used car. To register, call 828-465-8665.



### STEAM Saturdays @ ST: HalloSTEAM

Saturday, October 23 at 3 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library

This month we'll have fun with the spooky side of science by making ghost bottle rockets. Kids of all ages welcome, but children younger than 7 may need parental assistance. Space is limited so register at [tinyurl.com/steamsaturdays](http://tinyurl.com/steamsaturdays) or by calling 828-466-6821.

### Piece of Cake Book Club

Thursday, October 28 at 5 pm  
Whisk and Barrel in Downtown Newton

Selecting a diverse range of works and authors, we're gathering to chat about October's pick, Dracula by Bram Stoker. November's selection is The Midnight Library by Matt Haig.



Readers are welcome to suggest titles for 2022 at [tinyurl.com/ccls-pieceofcake](http://tinyurl.com/ccls-pieceofcake).

### Witch's Brew STEAM Halloween

Monday, October 25 at 5:30 pm  
Southwest Branch Library

Children of all ages are invited to a spooktacular evening of learning and fun with hands on experiments that will have everyone bubbling and brewing! Registration is required. Call 828-466-6818 to register or visit the SW Branch.

### Teen Spooky Shirts

Friday, October 29 at 4 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Create the perfect shirt to celebrate spooky season using stencils and a simple solution of bleach and water. Make sure to wear something you don't mind getting dirty. Registration required by calling 828-466-6827 or stop by the branch.

### Halloween Handouts

Friday & Saturday, Oct 29 & 30  
Southwest Branch Library

Patrons of all ages are invited to stop by the Southwest Branch Library dressed in their most fashionable Halloween costumes. Spooktacular music will greet you as you make your way into the library and embark on entertaining activities and ghoulish adventures. And of course, there will be treats for everyone!

### Halloween Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, October 30 from 10 am - 1 pm  
Conover Branch Library

Kids of all ages are invited to the Conover Branch Library for a Halloween-themed scavenger hunt. Costumes are encouraged!

### Did You Know?

We lend recreation kits for at-home play! Check out pickleball, bocce, cornhole, Zumba, or croquet for 2 weeks at a time!



## LIBRARY TO GO

### Claremont Daze Festival

Saturday, October 2 from 10 am - 4 pm  
Downtown Claremont

We're joining the excitement at the Claremont Daze Festival on Saturday. Come buy from local artisans, eat, listen to great music, and enjoy books and activities for everyone

### Library to Go at the Town of Catawba

Thursday, Oct 7 & 21 from 10 am-2 pm  
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!

### Library Outpost: Suds & Stories

Sunday, October 17 from 2-5 pm  
Clean Wave Laundry

2720 2nd Ave NW, Hickory  
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.

### Conover Harvest Market

Saturday, October 23 from 10 am-2 pm  
Conover Post Office

The Library to Go is joining the seasonal market at Conover and we can't wait to talk with you about programs and books and resources. Come by and check out the wonderful vendors who will be there and get some books, too!



### Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 23 from 3 - 7 pm  
Conover First United Methodist

410 1st Ave N, Conover  
Conover First United Methodist is hosting a community harvest festival with FREE activities, food, and fun for families. We'll be there to share books, activities, and more, too!

### Hops & Hunger Festival

Saturday, October 30 from 11 am - 3 pm  
CBV Brewery, 116 W A St, Newton

The festival is going to be great fun for the family and proceeds benefit The Corner Table, so join us for books, activities, and more!



### Treats in the Streets

Saturday, October 30 from 5 - 7 pm  
Downtown Catawba

The towns of Catawba and Claremont are ready to share all the treats with you this Halloween weekend. We'll be in the town of Catawba, so come show us your costumes. We can't wait to see you!



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MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON

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CLAREMONT BRANCH LIBRARY  
CONOVER BRANCH LIBRARY  
MAIDEN BRANCH LIBRARY  
SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH LIBRARY  
SOUTHWEST BRANCH LIBRARY  
ST. STEPHENS BRANCH LIBRARY

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