



Central Rappahannock Regional
Library
INSPIRING LIFELONG LEARNING

Director's Written Report

Illustrating Elements of CRRL's Strategic Plan

READ • LEARN • MEET • INNOVATE

June 1, 2024 - August 31, 2024



Public Relations:

- My Board of Directors position on the Chamber of Commerce will end with my last board meeting on September 24th
- I will continue my board positions on the Rappahannock Goodwill Industries and Topside Federal Credit Union boards
- Fredericksburg Branch staff worked with City staff on a FXBG Finds video to promote the branch's 55th anniversary
- Fredericksburg Branch hosted a huge celebration for Summer Reading families combined with the 55th anniversary of the branch



Organizational Development:

- Engaged outside consultant for bi-annual Employee Survey
 - Employee Survey ran two weeks in June
 - Met with consultant to review employee survey results
- We will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Salem Church Branch on September 19th. All are invited!
- CRRL was offered the City Suite at the Fred Nats stadium in August, and staff were able to attend the game.
- One- and two-person privacy pods were installed at Fredericksburg, Porter, and Salem Church branches, using Finley Trust funds



Library Administration:

- I visited all branches 1-2 times this quarter.
- We celebrated the 55th anniversary of CRRL with staff lunches in July.
- CRRL distributed approximately 2,000 COVID test kits free to the community.
- Several critical staffing positions were filled.



Financial Management:

- From the families of long-time CRRL staff, we received \$2,300.
- CRRL received \$7,800 from bequests this quarter.



Board Relationship:

- Met with Board Chair multiple times regarding leadership changes
- Met with Board Chair to discuss board meeting agenda items
- As an FYI, my last day of work will be on September 30th.



Additional Highlights





Kudos

Montross Branch

We love the reading classes for the kids, the arts and crafts, and getting to hang out with the other neighborhood kids.

Cooper Branch Customer

Thank you so much for always being so helpful and having so much patience helping me look for books!

Salem Church Branch Customer

The Access Services staff have connected me with the Talking Books app which has been a lifesaver for me!!

Howell Branch Customer

I enjoyed the artwork on display from local elementary schools, it is so important for the library to collaborate with the local schools in this way. Important for the students and the community.

Snow Branch Customer

Our non-profit suddenly needed a meeting space and your staff was so helpful! Friendly, attentive, and went the extra mile. What a big heart they have for the community!

Fredericksburg Branch Customer



Fredericksburg Parent Awards

CRRL won **three 1st-place awards** in *Fredericksburg Parent's 2024 Family Favorites* contest:

- **Best Tutoring Service**
- **Best Indoor Activity**
- **Best Free Things to Do**



Porter Branch Recognized

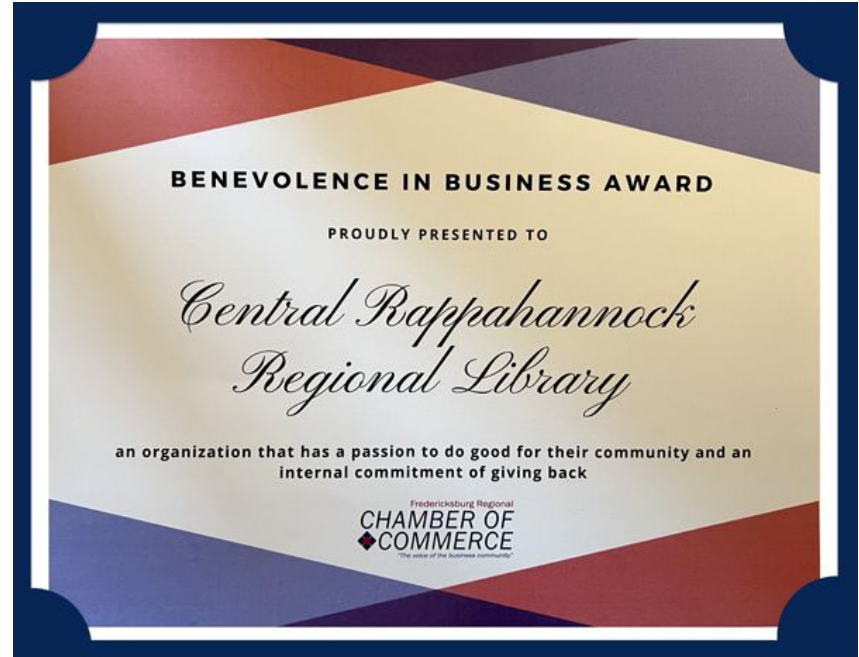
InsideNoVa Magazine's annual "Best Of" competition named Porter Branch the **Best Library in Stafford**.



CRRL wins Benevolence in Business Award

In July, the **Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce** recognized the library for:

- **Positive and trustworthy reputation**
- Actively engaging in **outreach initiatives** that benefit both **the local community** and **the wider business landscape**



Music on the Steps

CRRL presented **12 concerts**, with a total of **2,080 attendees**, at the **39th annual Music on the Steps summer concert series**, held on the front steps of Fredericksburg Branch.

Sponsored by  Friends of the Library



Don Brown's Soul Experience



Laurie Rose Griffith & Peter Mealy



Elby Brass



Spanglish Latin American Band



Summer Reading: Adventure Begins at Your Library

From May 15 through August 15, **4,066 customers** signed up for CRRL's annual summer reading program.

Participating adults logged **8,223 books**. Children and teens logged **2.3 million minutes** of reading.



End-of-Summer Fun Fests!

Community celebrations with games, activities, ice pops, and more!

Sponsored by  Friends of the Library



Founding Fathers' Independence Celebration

On July 6 at **Fredericksburg Branch**, customers enjoyed an afternoon of **exploring local history resources** and **enjoying non-tea refreshments!**



Discovery Tables at Every Branch

Throughout the summer, **children explored** a rotating series of **self-guided, discover-it-yourself STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities.**



Super Summer Smash

At **Fredericksburg** and **Porter** branches, teens enjoyed special after-hours fun.



Grades 6-12

SUPER SUMMER SMASH!

When the library's closed, the real fun begins...

Come hang after hours with pizza, games, and friends!



Wildlife Center of Virginia

In June, children in grades K-6 met animals who had formerly been patients of the wildlife hospital.



Grow a Reader Summer Specials

Grow a Reader Special Storytime


Summer Reading Kickoff



Stories, songs, and activities.

Grow a Reader Special Storytime


HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



Stories, songs, and activities for all ages with a caregiver.

Grow a Reader Special Storytime



Eid al-Adha



Stories, songs, and activities for all ages with a caregiver.

Grow a Reader Special Storytime

Juneteenth



Stories, songs, and activities for all ages with a caregiver.


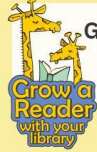
Grow a Reader Special Series

Feeling Ready



Grow a Reader Special Storytime



PRIDE



Stories, songs, and activities for all ages with a caregiver.

Grow a Reader Special Storytime

International Friendship Day



Stories, songs, and activities for all ages with a caregiver.



Pride Month

In **June**, CRRL celebrated Pride Month with **events** and **booklists** for all ages.



librarypoint.org/pride-month

fxbg
PRIDE

LGBTQ+ Teen Book Group

Dress to Transgress

Grades 6-12

How to be an LGBTQ+ Ally
Panel Discussion

Presented by **fxbg**
PRIDE



Back to School

Resources, databases,
and more for **students** of
every age, **parents**,
teachers, and other
educators.

librarypoint.org/back-to-school



New! Translation Widget on Website

At librarypoint.org:

- Navigate to the bottom-right corner
- Look for "**Select Language**"
- Choose one of over 120 languages

Your page will automatically reload in that language!



Black Music Appreciation Month Concerts

Two June events at **Howell Branch** featured music and spoken word by local African American artists:

- Christian rap artist **Testimony Rich** and **Meaux**, who focuses on music, poetry, and spoken word
- **Alex Harvell**, specializing in neo soul jazz with a little spoken word and hip hop



New Library of Things

Music Kits!

Boomwhackers, digital drum set, percussive musical instrument set, and ukulele



Emerging and Early Readers Kits!

Letters, Sound It Out, Rhyming, Starting to Read, Developing Readers, Advancing Readers



librarypoint.org/things



Privacy Pods

Privacy pods for **Fredericksburg, Porter, and Salem Church branches** were made possible by a generous donation from the **Trust of Christopher Finley and Mary Campbell Finley**.

librarypoint.org/faq/privacy-pods

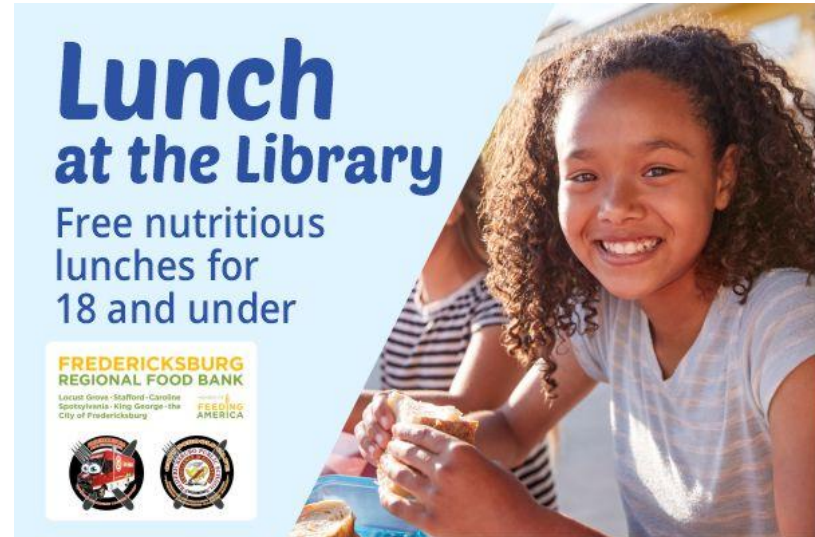


Lunch at the Library

3,610 meals were provided to youth 18 and under at multiple branches throughout the summer.

In partnership with
Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank and **Fredericksburg City Public Schools Mobile Cafe.**

librarypoint.org/lunch



Save the Pollinators Flower Show

On August 21 at **Fredericksburg Branch**, **253 customers** enjoyed our perennial exhibit and contest to educate on what to plant to **benefit bees and other pollinators**. The exhibit included **75 entries from adults** and **44 entries from children**.

Presented by the **Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners**.



Book Group Partners

- Adventure Brewing Co - Eagle Village
- Colonial Beach Brewing
- Curitiba Art Cafe
- Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
- FXBG Pride
- Hague Winery
- Zibibbo 73

librarypoint.org/book-groups



Community Partners for Lunch & Learn

- Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail
- Fredericksburg Area Museum
- Rappahannock United Way
- Virginia Cooperative Extension



VIRTUAL

Lunch & Learn

Cooking with Local Flair



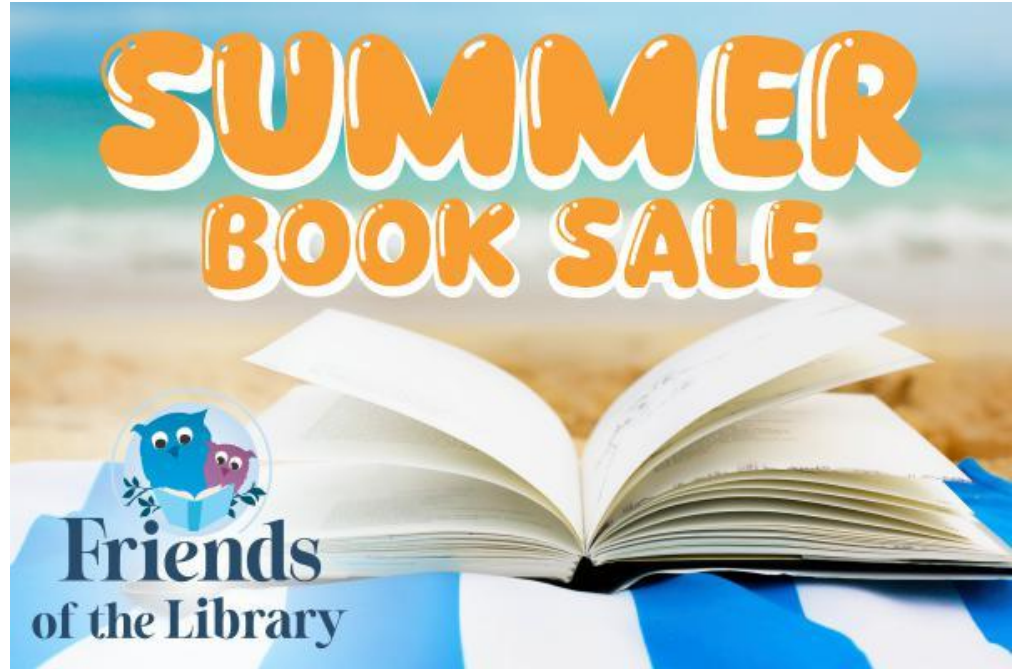
Virginia Cooperative Extension

The graphic features a purple banner with the word 'VIRTUAL' in white. Below it, the text 'Lunch & Learn' is written in a large, dark blue font, with an ampersand between 'Lunch' and 'Learn'. Underneath, 'Cooking with Local Flair' is written in a smaller, black font. To the right of the text is a photograph of three people in a kitchen. A woman in a green patterned shirt and white apron is smiling and holding a bunch of green beans. A man with a beard and a striped shirt is looking at a green pepper. A woman with long brown hair is also smiling. In the bottom right corner of the graphic is the Virginia Cooperative Extension logo, which consists of a red and white square with a blue triangle and the text 'Virginia Cooperative Extension'.



Friends of the Library

The Friends held their very popular 4-day sale at the **Friends Center & Bookshop** in July.



Concert and Musical Petting Zoo

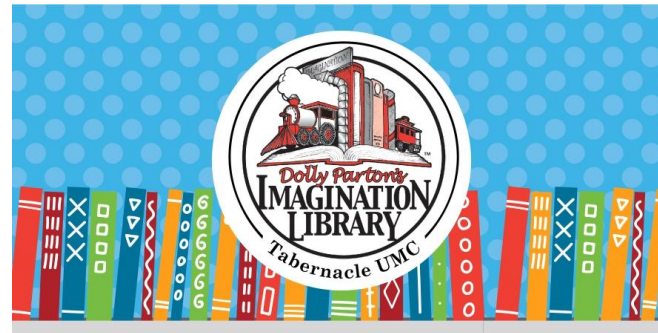
Children got to **see, touch and listen to a variety of instruments** throughout the summer at several branches.

Presented by the **Memories Ensemble of the Fredericksburg Concert Band.**



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Graduations

Salem Church and Howell branches hosted parties for this quarter's local DPIL participants who recently celebrated their **fifth** birthdays.



Free Haircuts in the Library

Twice a month, customers can stop by **Fredericksburg Branch** for a free haircut.

In partnership with **Faded & Co. Barber Academy.**



Free Haircuts
in the Library

First come, first served



New Online Resource for Kids

LOTE4Kids offers more than **4,000 children's digital picture books**, both eBooks and eAudio, in more than **65 languages**.



