



Director's Written Report

Illustrating Elements of CRRL's Strategic Plan

READ • LEARN • MEET • INNOVATE

June 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023



Director's Goals: Accomplishments June-August



Public Relations:

- Continued service as the Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Board Chair
- Gave an interview to a *Free Lance-Star* reporter in June regarding the library budget and hours
- Attended a welcome reception for the new UMW Business School Dean
- Presented as guest speaker at RUW's Prosper Mentoring Initiative
- Celebrated the 5th anniversary of the Spotsylvania Towne Centre Branch
- Celebrated the 25th anniversary of the C. Melvin Snow Memorial Branch



Organizational Development:

- Continued focus and emphasis on three main themes from the Employee Survey (Compensation, Autonomy, and Stress)
- Continued attending PLA Leadership Development Committee meetings, which will offer national online fall training sessions
- Work on the *Public Libraries* Advisory Committee continues this year
- The VPLDA Committee on State Standards work continues, with the final proposal to be presented at LVA in September
- Staff celebrated 54 years of CRRL with ice cream parties!
- Met with Micah Ministries staff and board members regarding client issues and concerns



Library Administration:

- Visited all branches at least once this quarter
- New interior signage project at Fredericksburg Branch completed
- Met with Stafford County officials regarding the library budget
- Continued partnership with VDH for free Covid test kits distribution
- Staff distributed 1,429 free COVID-19 test kits to customers
- Worked with Cafaro Company and Spotsylvania County staff regarding a lease extension for Spotsylvania Towne Centre Branch



Financial Management:

- Finley Trust finalized and \$249,000 received in total
- Insurance payment from water damages at the LAC and Cooper Branch received in amount of \$205,883
- Custodial expenses at the LAC have been cut in half for FY24
- Appointments have been scheduled with the auditor for the FY23 audit
- Met with Topside FCU leaders to discuss sponsorship of SRC prizes and other contributions



Board Relationship:

- Met with Board Chair to review September board meeting agenda
- Maintained regular communication with Board Chair and other board members



Additional Highlights



Best of the Burg

CRRL was voted as one of the **Top 3 Places to Spend an Afternoon with Your Child** in *The Free Lance-Star's* annual contest.



A Family Favorite!

CRRL received several accolades in
Fredericksburg Parent & Family's 2023
Family Favorites:

- 2nd place for **Best Free Things To Do**
- 2nd place for **Best Indoor Activity**
- 4th place for **Best Tutoring**



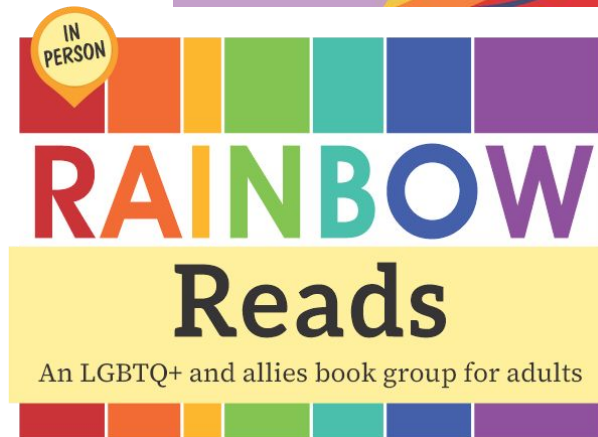
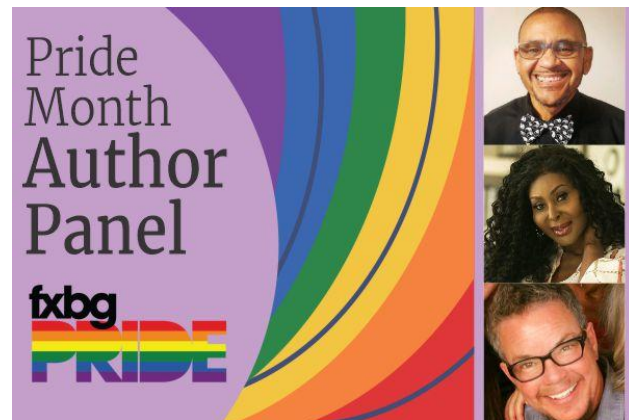
Summer Reading: Get Booked for Summer

From June 1-August 1, **4,262 customers** signed up for CRRL's annual summer reading program. Participating adults logged **18,969 books**. Children and teens logged **2.5 million minutes** of reading.



Pride Month

In June, CRRL worked with **Fredericksburg Pride** to host special events and create a year-round book group that put a spotlight on the **LGBTQ+ community**.



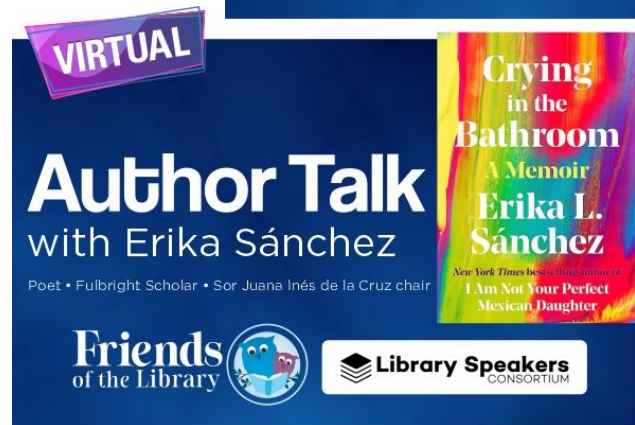
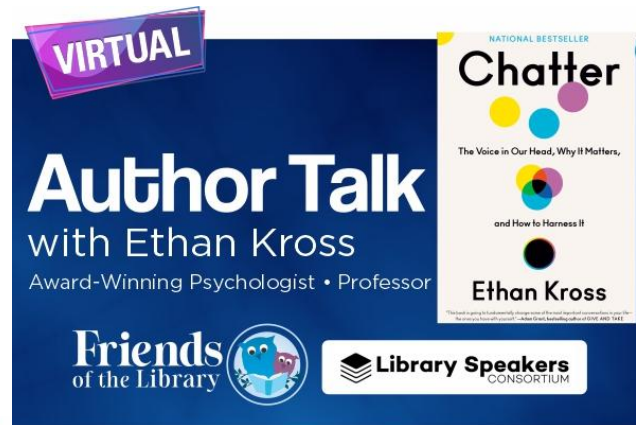
Friends of the Library

In late July, the **seasonal sale** at the **Friends of the Library Center** was a marvelous opportunity for the community to gather together and find bargains on used books, audiobooks, and DVDs.



Author Talks

These virtual author talks, from *New York Times*-bestselling authors and thought leaders, present a wide variety of genres and topics. Sponsored by the **Friends of the Library**.



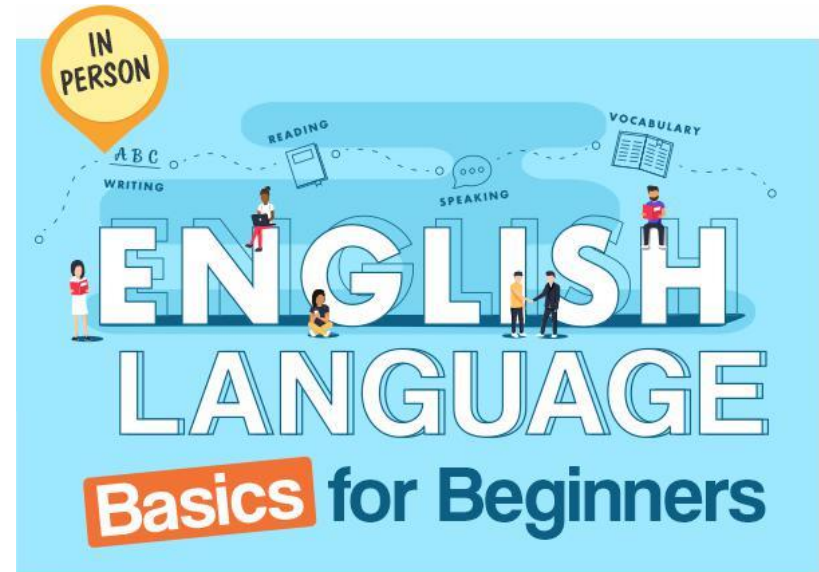
Music on the Steps

CRRL presented **12 concerts**, with a total of **1,717** attendees, at the **38th Annual Music on the Steps summer concert series**, held on the front steps of Fredericksburg Branch. Sponsored by the **Friends of the Library**.



Classes for English Language Learners

- **English Conversation Group**
- **English Language Learners Book Group** - sponsored by Rappahannock Area Regional Adult Education
- **English Language Basics for Beginners**



Join Us for Lunch

In partnership with
**Fredericksburg Regional
Food Bank** and
**Fredericksburg City Public
Schools Mobile Cafe**, 3,985
meals were provided to
youth 18 and under at
multiple branches
throughout the summer.



**FREDERICKSBURG
REGIONAL FOOD BANK**

Locust Grove • Stafford • Caroline
Spotsylvania • King George • the
City of Fredericksburg

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



Director's Goal: Library Administration

Growing Readers at the Library!

Grow a Reader classes and materials are designed to help build a child's brain and develop a **love of books and reading**.



Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Groups

Monthly meetings at Howell and Cooper branches give valuable knowledge and support to community members who care for people with Alzheimer's.

Sessions are presented by the **Alzheimer's Association.**



alzheimer's  association®



Director's Goal: Library Administration

Fredericksburg City Safety Camp

On August 4, **Fredericksburg Branch** accommodated **Spotsylvania County Animal Shelter** as part of a **Fredericksburg City Safety Camp** while the **Dorothy Hart Community Center** was unexpectedly closed.



Going Green with the Master Gardeners

This summer, the **Master Gardeners** shared their expertise at the library:

- **Backyard Composting 101**
In cooperation with the R-Board
- Twice-monthly **Plant Clinics**
- **Save the Pollinator Flower Show**



IdeaSpace: Making+Media

With the help of our community partners, CRRL's location for tech and creative exploration offers classes on **street photography** and exploring the workings of **vintage arcade machines**.



The **Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles'** portable office visits a CRRL branch each month to process **driver's licenses, ID cards, titles, and registration.**



Volunteers 17 and older can sign up at **RedCrossBlood.org** to help restock this vital supply for our community at a library branch.



Book Group Partners

- Colonial Beach Brewing
- Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
- Fredericksburg Pride
- Hague Winery
- Rappahannock Area Regional Adult Education (RARAE)
- Strangeways Brewing
- Zibibbo 73



Lunch & Learn Partners

- Debbie Brookham, Clinical Pet Nutritionist
- Joanna Catron, Curator and Assistant Director of Gari Melchers Home and Studio
- Meegana Henry, founder of Fredericksburg Pride
- Virginia Lyman Lucas, Local Historian
- Victoria A. Matthews, City of Fredericksburg Economic Development and Tourism
- Dr. Patrick Neustatter, Medical Director of the Moss Free Clinic
- Collette Riddle, Costume Designer



Kudos

Thanks for helping me fill out my employment forms. This library is one of the reasons why I am moving back to Colonial Beach.

**Cooper Branch
Customer**

The library is a place of hope and joy. I love seeing the families come in and their kids learning to return their books and use the self checkout. Education is so important and I'm happy to see the next generation here excited to learn.

Salem Church Branch Customer

You have mobile hotspots to check out?! This is the best library system I have ever encountered!

**Towne Centre Branch
Customer**

The weekly summer events for kids have single-handedly saved my sanity with school out. After a day of working from home, being able to get them out and engaged creatively is priceless. Thank you!

Fredericksburg Branch Customer

I am grateful for the meeting room and the helpful and polite staff. I am so grateful for the service you provide to this community.

Howell Customer



