



Director's Written Report

Illustrating Elements of CRRL's Strategic Plan

READ • LEARN • MEET • INNOVATE

December 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024



Director's Goals: Accomplishments December-February



Public Relations:

- I am speaking to a Chamber Leadership Fredericksburg class in April
- We purchased and distributed 887 copies of *Rachel's Dream*, by Ruth Coder Fitzgerald, to Fredericksburg City Schools' middle school students
- We received support from the local chapter of the NAACP to cover the book costs for *Rachel's Dream*
- Completed two-year term as Chair of the Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Board of Directors; I remain on the Board
- Continued service on Topside FCU Board of Directors
- Continued service on the Chamber's Board of Directors



Organizational Development:

- Continued focus and emphasis on three main themes derived from the Employee Survey (Compensation, Autonomy, and Stress)
- Continued attending Public Library Association Leadership Development Committee meetings
- Several staff and I attended the annual Chamber's CNEW luncheon in December
- Several staff positions were recently filled
- Purchased and scheduled installation of two picnic tables for the Montross Park, using bequest funds
- Plans are progressing on a storywalk for the Montross Park, also using bequest funds
- Westmoreland Library on the Go vehicle retrofitting is in progress



Library Administration:

- Work continues on a lease extension with Cafaro Companies and Spotsylvania County for the Towne Centre Branch
- CRRL distributed 5,169 free COVID test kits from the VDH
- Met with the new Westmoreland County Administrator
- We returned to a quarterly printing of our magazine, *@Your Library*, beginning with the Spring edition; this saves staff time and printing expenses



Financial Management:

- Met with the auditor regarding the FY23 audit
- CRRL received a \$7,500 grant from the Fredericksburg Charitable Foundation to expand our ESL resources
- CRRL also received an additional \$7,500 Duff McDuff Green, Jr. Fund grant for our Library on the Go initiative
- Wegmans is helping to sponsor our Youth Services Summer Reading Program for \$2,000
- TAL Tea Time is also sponsoring our Youth Services Summer Reading Program for \$1,000



Board Relationship:

- Conducted Board training for new Westmoreland Board member
- Met with Board Chair to review the March meeting agenda
- Scheduling welcome back and board training for returning Spotsylvania Board member



Additional Highlights





Kudos

Porter Branch

I love this branch--friendly and pleasant staff, welcoming and safe--everything!

Montross Branch Customer

My first time to the library! The very professional librarian helped me secure a library card. Thank you for your patience, knowledge and understanding. Such a lovely library branch.

Salem Church Branch Customer

5-star review on Yelp: "Great public library! Staff is amazing; courteous, knowledgeable, professional."

Porter Branch Customer

The librarian always helps me find the books I like. They are kind and always ready to help me.

Snow Branch Customer

The staff here were so kind, resourceful, and helpful. They didn't mind spending their time sharing knowledge about all that is available. Thank you so much.

Fredericksburg Branch Customer



Director's Goal: Public Relations

Grant for ESL Services

In November, CRRL received a **\$7,500** grant from the **FY24 Fredericksburg Savings Charitable Foundation** through the **Community Foundation of the Rappahannock River Region** to support **ESL services**.



the
community
foundation



Director's Goal: Library Administration

Grant for Library of Things

In February, CRRL received a **\$7,500** grant from the **Duff McDuff Green, Jr. Fund** to expand CRRL's **Library of Things** collection.

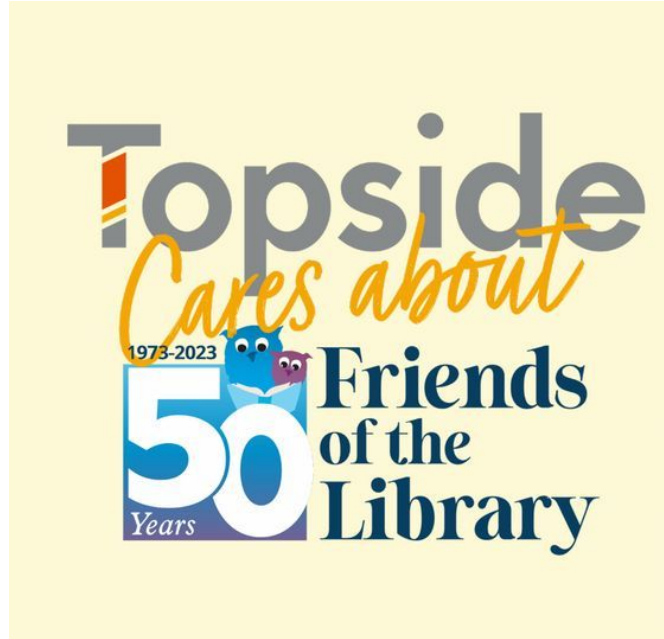
the
community
foundation



Topside Cares

The **Friends of the Library** have been chosen as **Topside Federal Credit Union's** community partner. Topside Cares will match donations until March 31.

Donation link:

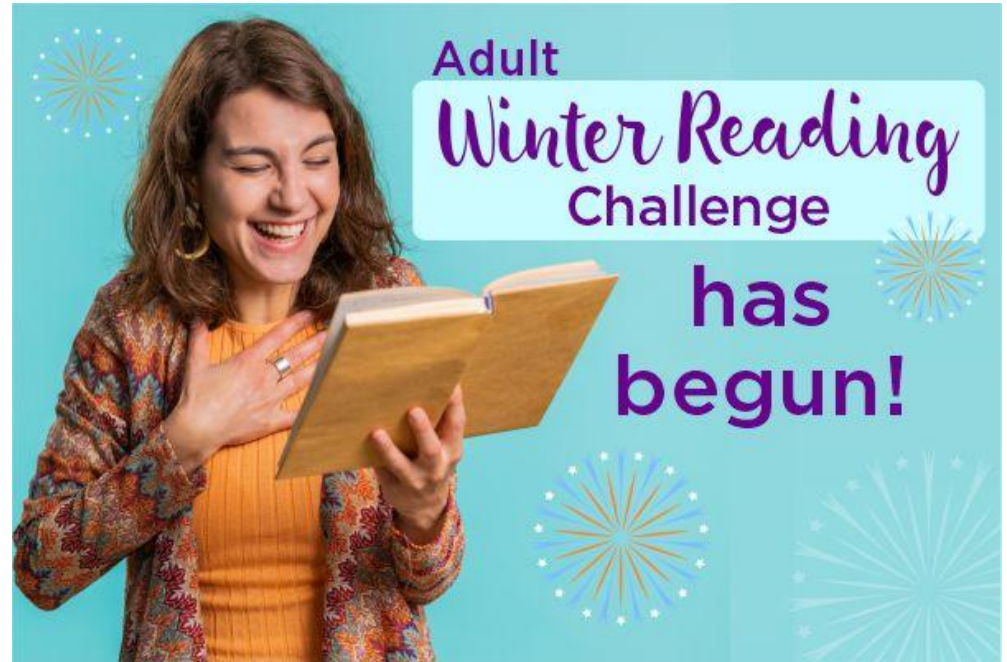


Director's Goal: Public Relations

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

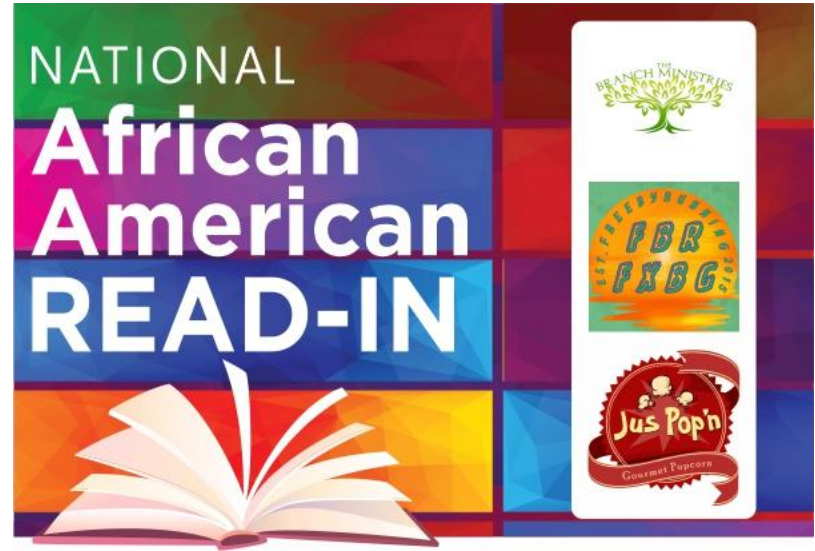
From January 1 through March 31, adults who **read and log 5 books** earn a **colorful stylus pen**.

librarypoint.org/winter



African American History Month Highlights

- African American Inventors Who Changed History
- African American Read-In
- Fabulous Friday: African American Heroes
- Lunch & Learn: Local African American Women



librarypoint.org/african-american-history



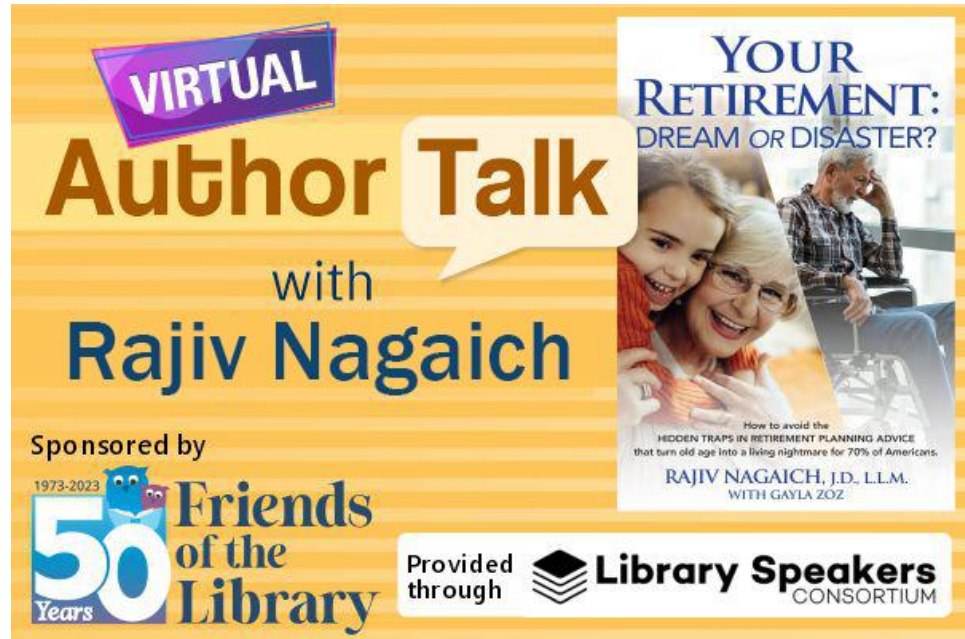
Director's Goal: Library Administration

Library Speakers Consortium Author Talks

Virtual author talks from *New York Times*-bestselling authors and thought leaders represent a wide variety of genres and topics.


People who can't attend the live talks can watch the recordings later!

librarypoint.org/lsc-authors



VIRTUAL
Author Talk
with
Rajiv Nagaich

Sponsored by
1973-2023 **50 Years** Friends of the Library

Provided through  **Library Speakers** CONSORTIUM

YOUR RETIREMENT: DREAM OR DISASTER?
How to avoid the HIDDEN TRAPS IN RETIREMENT PLANNING ADVICE that turn old age into a living nightmare for 70% of Americans.
RAJIV NAGAICH, J.D., LL.M.
WITH GAYLA ZOZ

The poster features a photograph of an elderly couple smiling. The background is orange with a subtle pattern of horizontal lines.



Access Services Relocation

On February 5, Access Services moved to Howell Branch to continue ensuring the library remains accessible to everyone, regardless of specialized or adaptive needs.

- Library materials sent by mail
- Talking Book service for people with low vision, blindness, or a physical, perceptual, reading or print disability
- Virginia Deaf Culture Digital Library

librarypoint.org/access-services



Fried Joint Use Center

Library services at the **Barbara J. Fried Center Joint Use Branch** ceased as of **Friday, February 16** due to low usage and the upcoming relocation of the Fried Center to an area of Stafford County already served by Porter Branch.

The Joint Use Branch opened August 20, 2018, with generous support from the **Stafford County Board of Supervisors** and in partnership with **Germanna Community College**.



Wireless Printing Now Available

On February 5, the library launched **wireless printing services to the public** using Xerox's "PrintByXerox" feature on all of the library's public copiers and printers.

librarypoint.org/printing



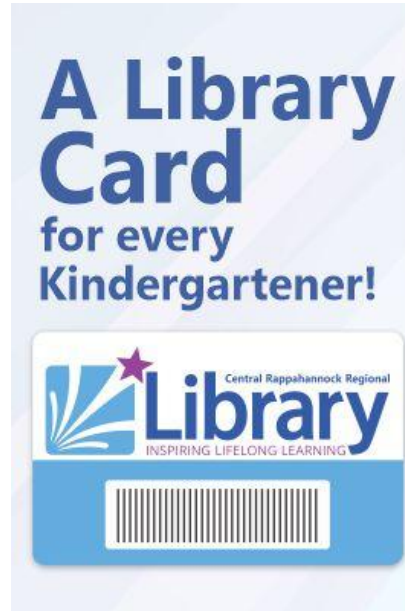
Grow a Reader Specials

Grow a Reader holiday specials celebrate the season, while encouraging early literacy for **ages birth to 5**.



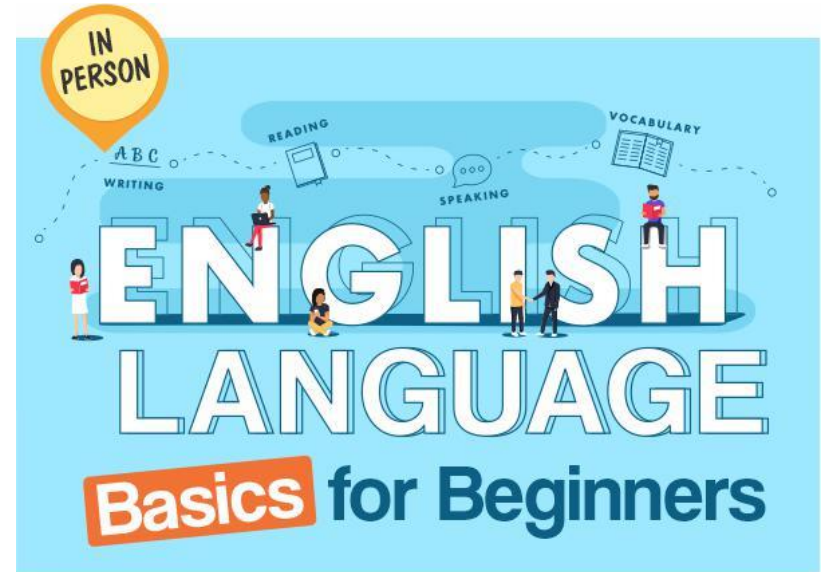
Kindergarten Library Card Campaign

Between **January 16** and **February 21**, families of area **kindergarten students** received invitations to apply for **library cards**, either via a printed hand-out or by email.



Language Studies

- **English Conversation Groups**
- **English Language Learners Book Group** - sponsored by Rappahannock Area Regional Adult Education
- **French Conversation Group**
- **Spanish Conversation Group**
- **World Languages Discussion Group**



Community Read/Watch

Customers streamed the film *What's Love Got to Do With It?* at no credit cost **February 5-19** and joined an **online discussion**.

The OverDrive title *One Summer in Savannah* was made available with no waitlists or holds **February 21 - March 6** as part of Together We Read, OverDrive's **two-week digital book club**.

kanopy



Director's Goal: Library Administration

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



Community Partners

Lunch & Learn

- Dr. Gaila Sims, Fredericksburg Area Museum
- Jon Bachman, paleontologist
- The Library of Virginia
- Rappahannock Area Health District
- Virginia Attorney General's Office
- Virginia Cooperative Extension

Civic Labs

- National Park Service
- Virginia Cooperative Extension



Job Skills Workshops

with Rappahannock Goodwill Industries

- Job Interview Tips & Tricks
- Creating a Professional Resume

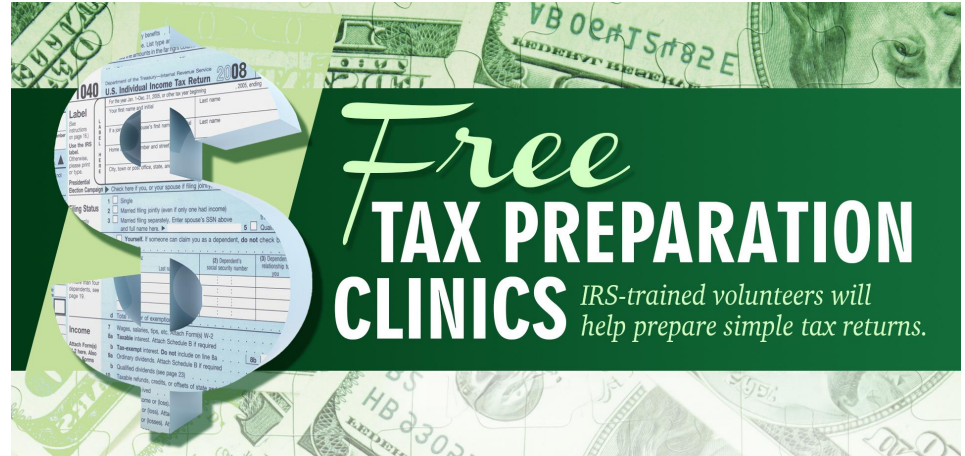
librarypoint.org/job-answers



Free Tax Preparation Clinics

IRS-trained volunteers help prepare simple tax returns.

librarypoint.org/tax-answers



Rappahannock United Way



Director's Goal: Library Administration

