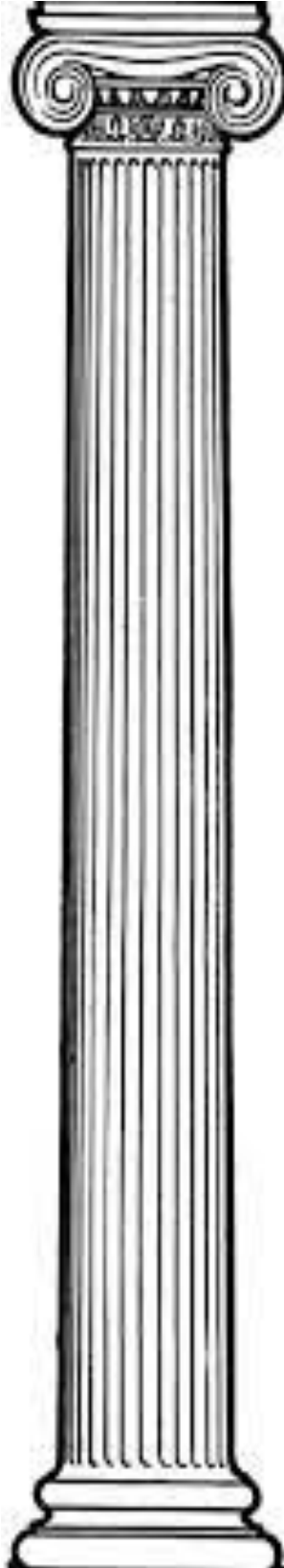




F•R•I•E•N•D•S

OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide



NC F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK

OUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy February Friends!

Many of us in North Carolina experienced some winter weather in January be it cold, snow or a winter mix of some sort. Kind of makes one want to hibernate or at least curl up in a warm bed with a good book!

Your FONCPL Board has been active this past month. Membership renewals, both group and individual have been trickling in. **If you or your group has not yet sent in your dues, please do so.** The forms are on our website. We have started to work on our spring workshop topics and presenters. We'll be posting them on YouTube again. We invite you to be a presenter or to send us your recommendations for topics and presenters. Contact President Judy Hills via [email](#). We are updating our registered agent on our corporation papers, getting our Charitable Solicitation paperwork done and filing our IRS 990-N.

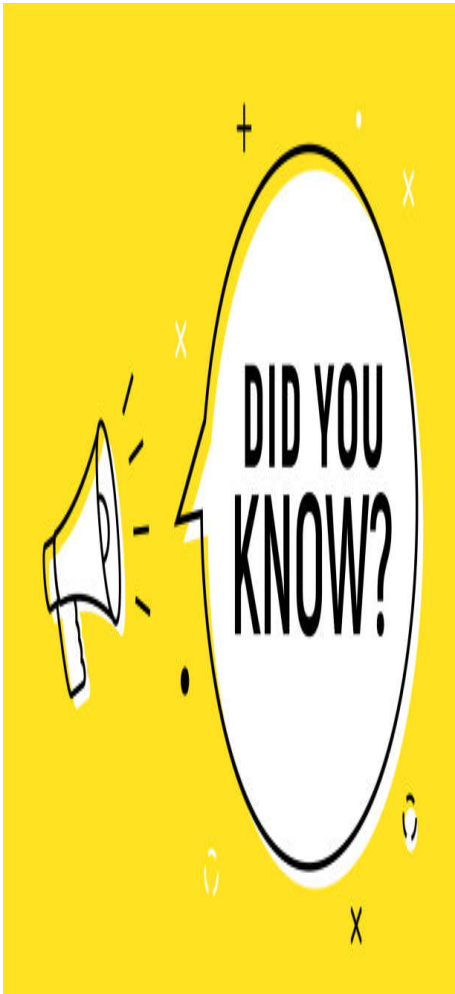
President Judy Hills was a presenter on a January 11th Zoom webinar for United for Libraries. Her topic was "Effective Collaboration: Information, Best Practices, and Resources for MOUs." Her co-presenter was Peter Pearson. There were 387 signed up to view the presentation, 246 actually viewed it and 42% of those viewers represented Friends of the Library. She will present a modified version of this presentation as part of the FONCPL spring workshop.

In this edition is a short article on the NC Center for Nonprofits 2021 Legal Compliance Checklist. FONCPL member groups are eligible to receive a free copy from FONCPL. The information to request a copy is provided. Normally unless your group is a member of NC Center for Nonprofits, you would have to pay to receive this checklist. This is an FONCPL benefit to member groups.

In honor of Valentine's Day, we leave you with this quote (author unknown), "*Friends are the flowers in the garden of life.*" We are thankful for our Friends!

Judy Hills, President





NC Center for Nonprofits 2021 Legal Compliance Checklist

“Created by the North Carolina Center for Nonprofits and updated annually, the legal compliance checklist outlines laws that affect North Carolina nonprofits’ governance, finances, advocacy, human resources, and fundraising. This checklist is not intended to give legal advice and should not be relied on without your attorney’s counsel. Throughout the document, the term ‘nonprofit’ generally refers to 501(c)(3) public charities incorporated in or operating in North Carolina. Private foundations and nonprofits classified as tax-exempt under other Internal Revenue Code sections may be subject to different rules and regulations.”

The FONCPL is a member of the NC Center for Nonprofits. Because FONCPL is a member we are permitted to provide our members with a copy of this checklist which as a nonmember you would have to purchase to download. And also because of that, we are not at liberty to post this document on our website.

If as a member, you would like to receive a copy, please email your request to [President Judy Hills](#). In so doing, you agree that you will not post (website or social media) or share it except with your member Friends.

We are happy to be able to provide this service to our members. This document has valuable information. We encourage you to read it and make applicable changes.

Do you know that this Shel Silverstein postage stamp will be released sometime this year?



Here's a really great idea!

Calling all readers ready to make a difference! You're invited to join the latest session of Little Free Library's [Action Book Club](#)—the book club that combines good reads with good deeds.

We're thrilled to announce the Action Book Club's 2022 theme: IN OUR NATURE, which honors the environment, our planet, and how we connect with the world around us.

Be sure to check out the new recommended reading list for the "In Our Nature" theme. Books for all ages—from children to adults—are included, and we think you'll find something that inspires you. The Action Book Club invites participants to read and discuss books, take part in service projects to benefit their communities, and [share their stories](#) to help spark a ripple effect of positive activity. Today there are more than 1,700 Action Book Clubs in 45 countries around the world.

You can read well—and do good! [Start an Action Book Club today!](#)



FONCPL offers two membership options:

Group membership is open to Friends organizations and public libraries.

Individual membership is open to anyone with an interest in the activities of the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries.

To join, please go to www.foncpl.org to view the Membership Forms.



Celebrating Our Library Staff Dr. Frances Jones, President Friends of the Randolph County Libraries

The Friends of the Randolph County Library surprised the 60 staff members of the eight branches of the Randolph County Library Public Library with beautifully designed T-shirts. The T-shirts reveal the newly developed logo for the library and serve as a great marketing tool for their services. The director of the library, Ross Holt, sent the following appreciation message to our Friends group, "I can't overstate how big a morale boost the T-shirts have been for our staff".

Staff members designate special days that all of them wear their shirts to work. Additionally, they wear the shirts to local street fairs, concerts and other community gatherings as a way of promoting the library and the pride they have as a library employee.



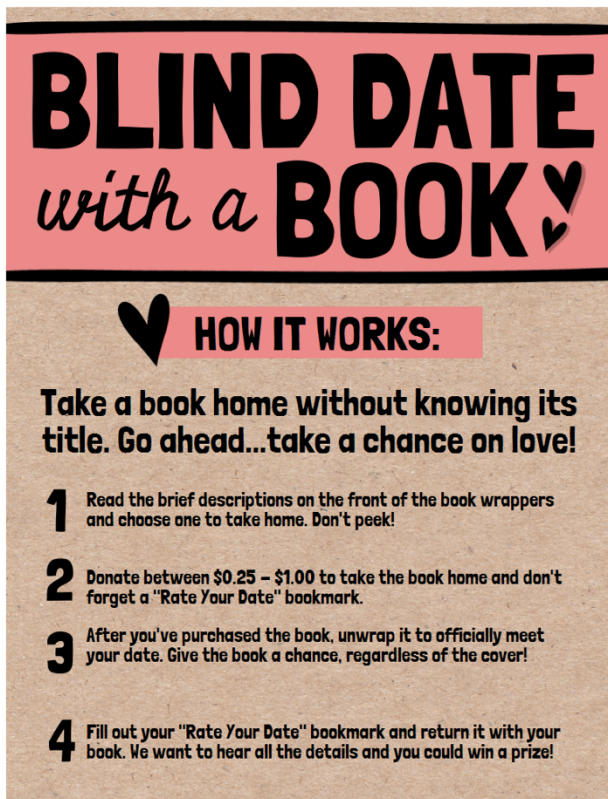
**SPOTLIGHT
ON OUR**



NEW: Tim Como, Gail Dickinson, Liz Pialenza, Julie Flick

RENEWAL: Mary Chisenhall, Diana Fotinatos, Hickory Public Library, Judy Hills, Kathy Lambe, Friends of the Lewisville Library, Marie Sessoms, Rebecca Smith, Friends of Southport/Oak Island Library

What a Fantastic Idea for February!!



SUCH MUCH FUN!!

It's a date!

Why judge a book by its cover when you can select titles based on appeal factors and their first line instead? Give your patrons the chance to fall in love with new books and authors by setting them up on a Blind Date with a Book! Wrap up books for your display and use our delightful promotional templates in LibraryAware.



to

FONCPL AWARD FIRST 2022 SEED GRANT

The FONCPL Board of Directors awarded a \$500 Seed Grant to the Denton Friends of the Library. Denton is located in Davidson County and has a population of 1,660. The Denton Public Library is part of the Davidson County Library System. Some community members tried to form a Friends group in 2016, but the organizer moved and then the pandemic took over, so with new leadership (Liz Roland and Ann Makuch) and with the assistance of Branch Manager Susan Craven, they are trying again to get the group kicked off.

The group is being mentored by FONCPL Board member and Grants and Awards Committee Chair, Donna Morgan. The first order of business is to assist the group to incorporate in the state of North Carolina as a nonprofit and then to apply to the IRS for 501 (c)(3) designation. We are excited to be able to assist this library establish a firm foundation on which to build their new Friends group. **Please join us in congratulating the Denton Friends of the Library, our newest Seed Grant Awardees!**





EMAIL SCAMS TO SEPARATE YOUR FRIENDS FROM YOUR MONEY

Surely by now you have been exposed to these ongoing scam email attempts to solicit funds from nonprofit organizations. In some cases, the scammer creates a similar domain name and pretends to be someone from within the organization. Typically, the email is to the Treasurer and may actually have the name of the President or other Board members in it. The scammer will ask for money for some purpose. It may look very legitimate, but here are some warning signs to look out for:

- Incorrect URL: cyber-crooks can send emails from phony domain names that mimic your organization or a well-known company (Like the Norton scams still making the rounds). These can be created by changing a letter or a character, or using a different extension such as .net instead of .org. If any part of a URL in an email seems awry, do not click through it.
- Incorrect email address of the supposed sender (although scammers do have a way to make the email address look correct).
- Suspicious text: watch for unusual urgency, incorrect grammar or messaging that is uncharacteristic of the sender.
- False hyperlinks: always hover over embedded links to ensure that the link actually goes where the text says it will.

If you have any questions or are suspicious of an email, DO NOT RESPOND BY CLICKING "REPLY." Best to phone or send a text to the supposed sender to verify the message. Or alternately, forward the message to the supposed sender using the senders correct email address and ask for clarification.

If you do have a legitimate need to have the Treasurer pay an expense, best to email a copy of the invoice along with the request for payment. The Treasurer has a duty to verify all such requests. Remember the expense should either be approved in your budget or approved by your Board.

We urge you to be vigilant!

To wrap it up,

Please remember to take the survey on

www.foncpl.org by 2/14/22...

It only takes about 3 minutes to complete.



to keep receiving the FONCPL Newsletters,

Be sure to join FONCPL please –

For info on how to join, go to www.foncpl.org.



*And send in any activities that you would like to share for the
March Newsletter by February 24, 2022.*

klambe@me.com



*All we need is **LOVE** & books!!*