



F.R.I.E.N.D.S

OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

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

June 2023



Hello Friends.

As summer heats up the temperature, we hope you will warm up to the idea of participating in the adult summer reading program, if your library has one or some other reading program (e.g., a book club) if it doesn't. And remember, too, to participate in other adult programs. Your presence at the library helps to get their counts up and this help validate the need for funding. Hopefully, Friends support their libraries by more than just giving money.

This past month I was invited to speak to the **Friends of the Swansboro** Library (Onslow County). Several other Friends groups from Onslow and Carteret County also sent representatives. The topic was on legal requirements of Friends groups in NC, but included a discussion of dos and don'ts when working with the library. There were several Onslow County librarians in attendance and I could see them nodding in agreement. While the FONCPL Board members could not physically appear at every meeting to which we might be invited, we could Zoom in and participate. Contact one of us, if this is something we could do for your Friends.

We also helped the **Friends of the NC Accessible Books and Library Services** (formerly the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped) to better understand how money flows from the Friends to the Library. Specifically, they appreciated the "Money Matters" YouTube Video (and PPT) which can be accessed on the Workshop tab (Spring 2022) on the FONCPL website. Don't forget to check our Resources page—it is packed with information.

This past month we also had several of our Seed Grant awardees complete the FONCPL grant requirements. We wish these Friends every success in the future knowing that FONCPL played an important role in their development. Friends groups "graduating" in May include: **Friends of the Johnston County-Smithfield Library, Friends of the Gibsonville Library and Friends of the Spruce Pine Library**. Congratulations! We still have two groups receiving assistance.

As happy as we are with our graduates, we were sad that one group never got off the ground because it lacked strong community-based leadership. We can't say enough about the need for strong leadership, but leaders also need supporters. If your group is floundering, do reach out to FONCPL.

Here is a possible ongoing project for your Friends to consider, the **Friends of the Farmville Public Library** have a "Volunteer Landscape Group" that meets the first Saturday of every month to keep the library's landscape fresh.

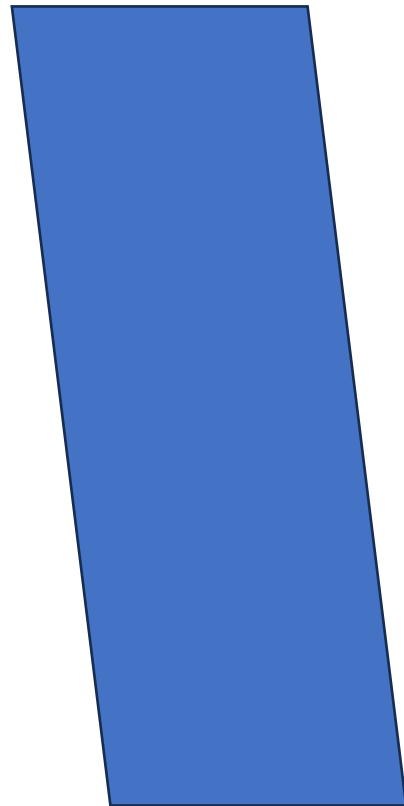
FONCPL Board is looking for ideas for our drawing in early 2024. Last year you may recall that we had a drawing for a set of StoryWalk panels. If you have any ideas for our 2024 drawing, please let us know. Also, we remind you that the deadline for our 2023 Challenge Grant is September 15th. [Click here](#) for details.

Yours in Friendship,

Judy

See the next page for pictures!

A large blue parallelogram with a black outline, tilted slightly to the right. It occupies the central portion of the page.

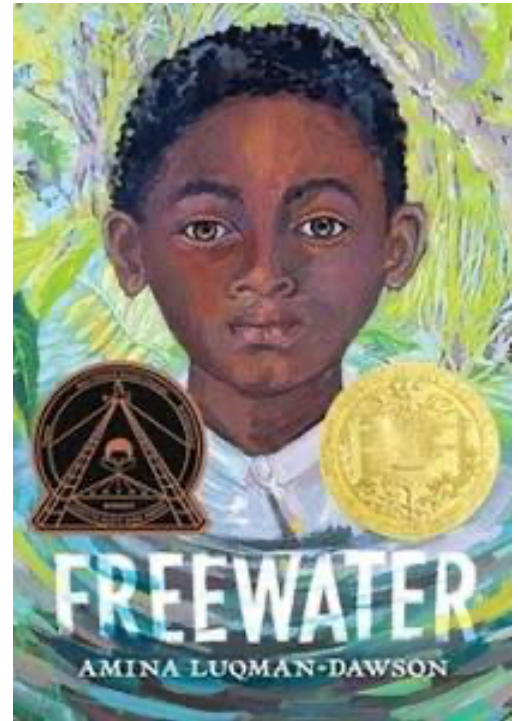


For your information & entertainment....

2023 Youth Media Award Winners

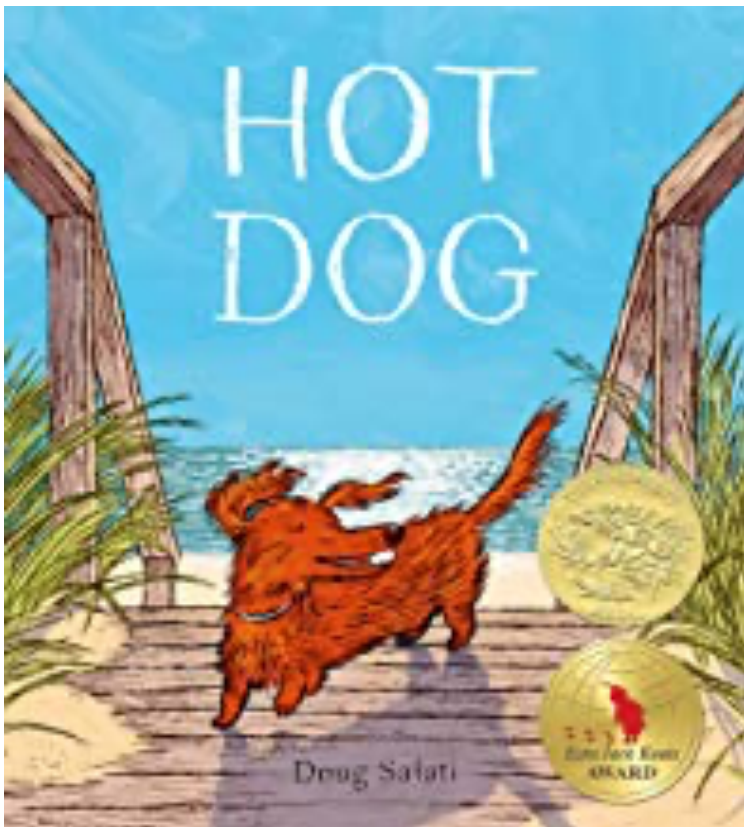
John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature:

Freewater, written by Amina Luqman-Dawson, is the 2023 Newbery Medal winner.



Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children:

Hotdog, illustrated by Doug Salati, is the 2022 Caldecott Medal winner. The book was written by Doug Salati and published by Alfred A. Knopf, Penguin Random House



Boston debuts a digital pop-up libraries pilot program at 20 bus stops

By [Aya Elamroussi](#), CNN

Boston is making reading on-the-go more accessible through a pilot program that will allow riders to access digital content from audiobooks to newspapers at some bus stops across the city – no library card required.

The program – dubbed “Browse, Borrow, Board” – gives riders access to books, magazines and other material through QR code links, and doesn’t need an app, according to a [news release](#) from the mayor’s office.

“This pilot program builds on our efforts to make public transportation more enjoyable, while also connecting our residents to the resources the Boston Public Library already offers,” Boston Mayor Michelle Wu said in the news release.

The decals containing the QR codes can be found this week on sidewalks at 20 bus stops as well as on bus paths owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority throughout the city.

The QR codes direct scanners to the digital pop-up library website, and the [city has also released a map](#) of where they’re located. The decals are accessible through the end of August, the news release noted.

The program was launched after the city conducted a survey about public transit last year and found that bus riders expressed high interest in accessing the Boston Public Library digitally on commutes, according to Maddie Webster, a program manager at the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics.

Five titles may be checked out at a time for a two-week period. After two weeks, patrons can rescan the QR code to register again and checkout more materials.

“We share in the value that knowledge and transportation could both be ‘Free to All.’ This opportunity connects public library and public transit offerings around learning and movement in our city,” said David Leonard, Boston Public Library president.

WHAT IF THIS WERE MADE AVAILABLE IN PLACES WHERE PEOPLE
HAVE TO WAIT . . . LIKE DOCTOR OFFICES AND CLINICS?

very cool idea.....



June is AUDIOBOOK APPRECIATION MONTH!



HISTORY OF AUDIOBOOK APPRECIATION MONTH

Many of us don't know this but audiobooks have been around for a long time now. When Thomas Edison invented the phonograph, he wanted to record books on it so that reading could become accessible for the visually challenged. He developed the idea of a phonographic book and lobbied at the Royal Institution in Britain to make these books easily accessible. To demonstrate his point, Edison recorded a verse of Alfred Tennyson's poetry that was played for the attendees.

However, Edison's phonographic books had a limited capacity and could not record clips that were longer than 4 minutes. This meant that it was insufficient for the recording of long chapter books. In the 1970s, when 60-minute cassettes were developed, it became possible to record longer literary works. But it wasn't until the invention of the CD that audiobooks really came into being. As memory expanded, users no longer had to worry about a lack of space for their recordings. A single CD was capable of containing volumes of books. With time, audiobooks started becoming available on music streaming apps as well as apps built solely for listening to audiobooks.

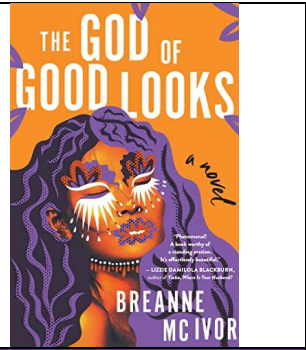
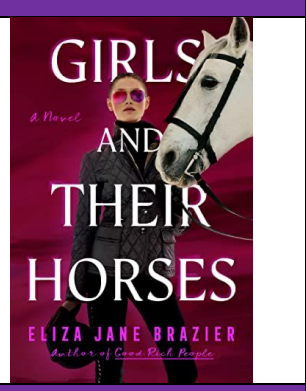


About 40% of all audiobooks are consumed through public libraries, while the rest are sold online and at retail book stores. Library download programs have also seen rapid growth as these public libraries offer free downloadable audiobooks. Audiobooks have also proven to increase general literacy. Audiobook Appreciation Month celebrates the wonderful development of audiobooks over the years and the way this format has helped millions of people read their favorite books day after day!

5 Facts About Audiobooks That Will Blow Your Mind

1. Audiobooks were invented for the blind
2. An average audiobook is 10 hours long
3. An average audiobook is 300 MB in size
4. A narrator makes up to \$250 an hour
5. The longest audiobook is 146,444 minutes long

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING 2023 LIST OF BEACH READS!

	<p><i>Happy Place</i></p> <p>Harriet and Wyn's friend group has vacationed at the same Maine house for a decade, so when it goes up for sale, they're determined to soak up one last week of fun. There's just one problem: Harriet and Wyn haven't told their crew they're no longer engaged, so they're stuck sharing a room to keep up the ruse. But is it all really just for show, or are sparks flying?</p>	<p>Emily Henry</p>
	<p><i>Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club</i></p> <p>Grab yourself a cold one from the garage fridge while you get to know the lovably flawed characters surrounding the Lakeside Supper Club, a quintessentially Midwestern restaurant that has been both the albatross and salvation of proprietress Mariel's family for generations. When a devastating tragedy strikes, Mariel and her husband Ned (himself a restaurant heir of a different kind), they've got tough choices to make — and you'll feel their struggle like it's your own.</p>	<p>J. Ryan Stradal</p>
	<p><i>The Guest</i></p> <p>Head to the Hamptons if only in your mind with this expertly painted observation on power and access. The beautiful and manipulative Alex has charmed her way into her older (and richer) boyfriend's life in the elite enclave. But when he unceremoniously dumps her a week before his big Labor Day bash, she's determined to somehow hide out on Long Island until confront him at the end-of-summer blowout. Come for the real estate envy, stay for the ~drama~.</p>	<p>Emma Cline</p>
	<p><i>Quietly Hostile: Essays</i></p> <p>Pro-tip: Don't even try to drink anything while working your way through this gut-busting essay collection by the TV writer and essayist who gets real about everything from her QVC habit to her maladjusted pandemic puppy. Life can get messy, and Irby is all for getting down and dirty about it and in that, we all win.</p>	<p>Samantha Irby</p>
	<p><i>Late Bloomers</i></p> <p>Recently divorced Suresh and Lata are trying to find love again after a 36-year marriage. Suresh keeps striking out on the apps, while Lata relishes her independence until a handsome academic comes calling. Meanwhile, their children have their own romantic struggles that they'd rather keep hidden from their parents. But the truth will out, and when it does, a hilarious comedy of errors ensues.</p>	<p>Deepa Varadarajan</p>

	<p><i>The God of Good Looks</i></p> <p>Former model Bianca Bridge has always wanted to be a writer, so when the notoriously tyrannical Obadiah Cortland hires her to run his makeup magazine, she jumps at the chance. But when a powerful ex-lover threatens everything she's made of herself, she finds support where she least expects it.</p>	<p>Breanne Mc Ivor</p>
	<p><i>Girls and Their Horses</i></p> <p>Calling all former horse girls: This is the thriller you've been waiting for. Heather Parker signs her daughters up for show jumping lessons at the tony Rancho Santa Fe Equestrian, where a borderline-abusive head trainer and his broodingly handsome star rider rule over a cast of cliquey teens and their hovering Barn Moms. But there's something darker going on than perfecting their form, and pretty soon, the Parkers find themselves involved in a lot more than competitions.</p>	<p>Eliza Jane Brazier</p>
	<p><i>Save What's Left</i></p> <p>This beach read will make sure you <i>never</i> want to buy a beach house. When Kathleen Deane's husband Tom decides to leave their 30-year marriage and safe-but-drab Kansas life to find himself, Kathleen does him one better and buys a little beachfront cottage in Whidbey, an artsy seaside community. But when she gets there, she discovers a monstrosity of a McMansion going up next door, and goes on the offensive against its many code violations (and eyesores) with her busybody neighbor Rosemary. In this hilarious farce, we realize that paradise really is anything but when you actually live there.</p>	<p>Elizabeth Castellano</p>
	<p><i>The Only One Left</i></p> <p>If parents want their kids to stay away from steep cliffs, just hand them this summer's Sager blockbuster. It's 1983 and in-home caregiver Kit gets assigned to care for the notorious Lenora Hope, who massacred her entire family one bloody night in 1929, as the lore goes. But they were never able to prove it, so Lenora has been cloistered in her cliffside mansion ever since. Rendered mute by a series of strokes, she can only communicate to Kit by painstakingly typing on a typewriter. But when Lenora starts to trust Kit enough to tell her what really happened that night, things take a dark turn toward one of Sager's signature gasp-inducing twists.</p>	<p>Riley Sager</p>
	<p><i>Excavations</i></p> <p>Elise, Kara, Z and Patty are four women all working on the same remote archaeological dig site in Greece, but that's about all they have in common. Kara's a put-together conservator about to call off her wedding, while Patty would do about anything to find love. Z ends up on the dig after getting dumped <i>and</i> fired, and Elise, the best excavator on site, has got no more rhymes-with-ducks left to give. So when they uncover something at the site that could change history forever, they've got to decide whether they can put their differences aside to make a real difference.</p>	<p>Kate Myers</p>

Library Discards

by Judy Hills, FONCPL President

In order to be able to accommodate newer titles, libraries must weed their collections. So, what do libraries do with their discards? The first thing they do is stamp the book “discarded.” This officially takes the book off their inventory. Before we get into what happens to these books, we need to understand North Carolina law. According to the NC School of Government, local governments (municipal, county or regional government like a regional library) may discarded personal property valued at under \$30,000 “...because it has no value, unable to sell, or poses threat to public health or safety.” G.S. 160A-266(d) The library may legally “donate these items to non-profits, sister cities, and other units of government...” G.S. 160A-280. The libraries are also permitted to sell these books: “Private negotiated sale with governing board approval (G.S. 160A-266(b) and 160A-277), or by local policy (160A-266(c)) OR donate or sell to public and private entities for continued public use – cities and counties only (G.S. 160A-279).”

The library can try to sell these discards themselves through a book sale or ongoing retail sale (book case in the checkout area). They can also try to sell them through a company like [Thrift Books](#) or [Better World Books](#). Click on those links if you want to know more about those programs. Although these programs say they never throw a book away, they do recycle them—the same as a library or Friends group could do with books they are discarding.

Many libraries comply with the law by donating their discards to the Friends for them to sell. We believe this is advantageous for the library as this helps them to avoid public outcry when a citizen sees the dumpster in the back of the library full of books. It is also beneficial to the Friends as they may be able to sell some of those books.

We’d like to know what your library does with their discards. Email your comments to [Judy Hills](#), FONCPL President.

THIS IS SO HARD!!

Can you do it?

Can you spot the [AI-generated images?](#) (best on desktop)

Have some fun
with this!

Top 14 States, Ranked by Their Beauty

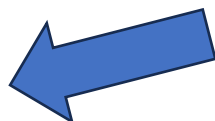
by Thrillist Travel

NC made the top 14!!!

1. California Expansive beaches, towering cliffs, desert, Big Sur, wine country, Yosemite, Redwood, Death Valley		2. Hawaii 7 larger islands, 130 smaller islets, beaches, jungles, volcanic vents	
3. Alaska Kenai Fjords, inside passage glaciers, Denali's snow-capped peaks, 8 Nat'l Parks		4. Utah Sandstone arches, Moab canyons, Bonneville Salt Flats	
5. Colorado 50 peaks over 14,000 ft, mountain lakes		6. Washington Cascades, Columbia River Gorge, San Juan Islands	
7. Oregon Rugged coastline & temperate desert, evergreen wilderness, Mt Hood, Haystack Rock, Crater Lake, Mt Whitney, Willamette Valley wine country		8. Michigan 3,288 miles of coast, craggy coast of Lake Huron, 11,000 inland lakes	
9. Arizona Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Lake Powell, Flagstaff, Sedona		10. Wyoming Jackson Hole, Grand Tetons, Laramie, Cheyenne, Bighorns, Red Canyon, Devils Tower, & more	
11. Montana Yellowstone, Glacier, 3 rd largest state		12. North Carolina Blue Ridge to the Outer Banks	
13. Vermont From the sunset shores of Lake Champlain to the misty rivers of St. Johnsbury		14. New Mexico Desert scenery, red rock cliffs, White Sands Nat'l Park	

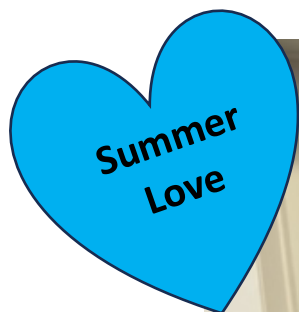
To see the rest of the states, visit https://www.thrillist.com/travel/nation/most-beautiful-states-in-america?utm_source=recommendedreads.com

The Vanceboro Strawberry Festival was the site of a fun Friends of the Library photo booth and book sale. As always the WCHS National Honor Society provided us with excellent volunteers. For a fundraiser we currently have a cute book tote available for sale for \$10 in the library and at our Friends events. We've also been busy raffling a summer beach bag loaded for fun for \$2 a ticket. The drawing will be June 1 at the library. Next up our Friends will provide a summer outdoor movie night showing Night at the Museum on July 27 at dusk. We always enjoy our movie events and last year had over 50 people in attendance. Bring a lawn chair and join us!



Such a cute idea!!

Maybe other Friends could do a similar photo opp/booth and take pictures/selfies and post them on their Facebook page!!



The Best Movies of 2023, So Far

Vanity Fair chief critic Richard Lawson lists the best movies of 2023 to date.....April 25, 2023.

The Eight Mountains - tracing the bond between two Italians as they leave boyhood and venture into manhood.

Godland - about a Danish priest traveling to Iceland at the end of the 19th century

How to Blow Up a Pipeline - A nervy eco-thriller that doubles as a persuasive piece of activist messaging

Of An Age - a closeted teenager who has a chance encounter with a friend's older brother, Adam

Return to Seoul - young South Korean woman adopted by French parents travels to seek birth family.

Scream VI - a continuation of a long saga now geographically shifted to New York City, is a surprising delight.

Sharper - twisty con game is a literate pleasure.

Showing Up - a Portland Oregon sculptor, earning a living at a local arts college and spending her spare time tending to her creative output.

A Thousand and One - Taylor fluidly embodies a woman trying to keep ahead of a secret.

Tori and Lokita - frank, devastating look at two kids tangled in the red tape of immigration bureaucracy.



2023 Winners for Fiction

Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver

A masterful recasting of “David Copperfield,” narrated by an Appalachian boy whose wise, unwavering voice relates his encounters with poverty, addiction, institutional failures and moral collapse—and his efforts to conquer them.

Trust, by Hernan Diaz

A riveting novel set in a bygone America that explores family, wealth and ambition through linked narratives rendered in different literary styles, a complex examination of love and power in a country where capitalism is king.

All of the Original Illustrations From Charles Dickens' Novels are Available to View Online

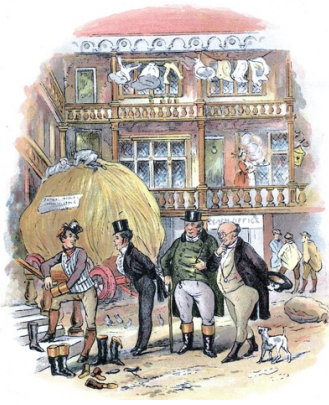
by Margherita Cole, 5/13/23

Few authors are as world-renowned as Charles Dickens. From *Oliver Twist* to *A Tale of Two Cities*, the 19th-century writer produced some of the most acclaimed novels that are still widely read and studied today. And while his work is now enjoyed in book form, it's not how his stories were appreciated during the Victorian era. Instead, Dickens' works were published in serialized installments, ranging from weekly to monthly. Accompanying his stories were detailed illustrations.

Dickens collaborated with several illustrators during his lifetime, each with a distinctive style that complemented the story at hand. Instead of showcasing these works of art with Dickens' text, Goodman chose to display each image on its own so it can be appreciated. "In many ways, it is a call-back to the print shops and galleries of the 19th century, where illustrated prints would often be placed in the windows of these establishments, tempting potential customers to buy the latest installment of a novel," Goodman adds. "Similarly, if this website encourages users to read more Dickens (or to further explore the work of one of the artists), then it has done a very satisfactory job."

You can find all of the original illustrations on The Charles Dickens Illustrated Gallery's [website](#).

THIS IS SO COOL!!



from "The Pickwick Papers"



I Return to the Doctor's after the Party.



asking for more "Oliver Twist"



from "A Tale of Two Cities"



from "A Tale of Two Cities"



from "The Pickwick Papers"



Mr. Harthouse Dines at the Wanderer's.



Leaving on Capital.



Mr. Gargery in his Baptism.

How to Make Books out of Bricks – Hobbies on a Budget

Have you seen the brick books that people are creating and using to decorate their gardens? Recently, I decided to take some old bricks that were out in the barn and try to create a new garden piece of decor celebrating one of my favorite hobbies – reading! The beauty of this craft is that is very forgiving! If you make a mistake, just repaint it and start over! Here are the directions for creating these easy books out of bricks for your garden!



Materials:

- Bricks
- Spray Paint or [Acrylic Paint](#) (paintbrush)
- [Sharpie Marker](#)

Directions:

Prepare the Bricks

Choose the bricks you want to use for your books. They don't have to be perfect rectangles. You can bury the broken end in the dirt and hide those spots.

Paint the Bricks

Spray or paint one side and on top end white for the pages of the book. Spray the other sides of the brick the color of your choice to form the binding of the book. If you are worried about overspray, you can touch it up with a brush or tape it off for a more precise edge.

Design your BookBinding

Use a sharpie to draw your bookbinding design. Simple is better! I tried multiple things before I realized that I was being overcomplicated. A simple stripe with a hint of a fleur-de-lis or open book worked better than our elaborate idea of using a stencil and painting on full titles.

Draw Page Lines

Using a Black fine point Sharpie, draw page lines on the top and side of your book. There's no real right or wrong to draw the lines. Since the eye sees what it expects, then you are simply giving the illusion of pages.

Place in Garden

Place them in your garden where you can enjoy them. I have a feeling that we will be rearranging our 'book shelf' periodically depending on how the flowers start to grow.





Start thinking now--

what would your Group like to do with the **\$250** Challenge Grant money that your FONCPL gives away in October?
The Deadline is September 15, 2023.

Visit foncpl.org today and look under the GRANTS/AWARDS tab.

Feel free to reach out to your FONCPL Board:
Your NC Friends Board

President Judy Hills (Craven County)
jahnbnc@gmail.com

Secretary Joanne Straight (Craven County)
jostraight@gmail.com

Treasurer Tim Como (Catawba County)
826mechanic@gmail.com

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Newsletter Kathy Lambe (Forsyth)
klambe@me.com

If you wish to share some photos or an article with us for the
July F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK ,
please email your information to klambe@me.com
by June 25, 2023.

