

What a beautiful project the Friends of the Library Southport Oak Island have started ~~ Take a look!



For many of us, happiness comes from the simple pleasure of reading a book in a tranquil, shady, comfortable garden. Libraries use outdoor spaces to fulfill their mission and more effectively serve their community. By improving the outdoor space at the Harper Library in Southport, we will create a special place that will add a host of benefits for patrons of all ages.

Through a Commemorative Brick Fund Raising Campaign, patrons and residents can honor and celebrate the special people or times in their lives. The purchase of a commemorative engraved brick financially supports the Margaret and James Harper, Jr. Library outdoor space. These bricks will be placed in a beautiful garden behind the Library to be enjoyed by the community for years to come.

The Harper Reading Garden will be a gathering and teaching space for children. Outdoor areas lend themselves to fun and educational youth programs, such as Summer Reading, Storytime, and Arts & Crafts.

Adults will benefit as well with a comfortable space for Book Club Meetings, Writers' Workshops, Author Programs, and many other outdoor events.

The garden will be planted with native trees, bushes, and perennials, turning the formerly unused space behind the library into a haven for book and nature lovers. As Ralph Waldo Emerson so brilliantly put it, "Nature and books belong to the eyes that see them." ~submitted by Donna Morgan



BOOKBUB'S BEST BOOKS TO TAKE TO THE BEACH 2023

	<p><i>The True Love Experiment</i> ~ Christina Lauren</p>	<p>Felicity “Fizzy” Chen is a bestselling romance novelist who has never actually been in love. Connor Prince is a documentary filmmaker who needs a hit show to please his boss and keep his job. When the two unite, the idea of creating a reality show featuring Fizzy falling in love on-screen could solve both of their problems – or create an even better version of happily ever after than either could have dreamed.</p>
	<p><i>Kismet</i> ~ Becky Chalsen</p>	<p><i>Publishers Weekly</i> calls this a “stunning debut” that “beautifully illustrates the power of family and forgiveness.” As their 30th birthday approaches, twins Jo and Amy Sharp find their relationship put to the test. Jo’s whirlwind wedding has taken center stage over the twins’ celebration, and Amy’s fairy-tale marriage to her childhood sweetheart, Ben, becomes more complicated every day. And as the Sharp family descends on the sun-soaked town of Kismet, Fire Island, a familiar face from Amy’s past may bring with him long-held secrets...</p>
	<p><i>Advika and the Hollywood Wives</i> ~ Kirthana Ramiseti</p>	<p>This new release is filled with complicated relationships, mysterious pasts, and Hollywood glitz and glamour! Struggling in her screenwriting career and mourning a recent loss, 26-year-old Advika crosses paths with legendary film producer Julian Zelding – and despite their 41-year age difference, they find themselves in a whirlwind romance that results in marriage. Julian is charming and glamorous... and uncharacteristically dodgy about his past relationships. When his ex-wife dies and leaves a clause in her will for Advika, she realizes she knows less about her husband than she thinks.</p>
	<p><i>Late Bloomers</i> ~ Deepa Varadarajan</p>	<p>Thirty-six years into their arranged marriage, Suresh and Lata Raman divorce and begin their individual journeys to discover their own paths in life. Suresh finds himself unsuccessfully navigating the world of online dating – until he meets an attractive younger woman. Meanwhile, Lata is thrown off-balance when an older man shows interest in her. As their parents find themselves, the Raman children are caught up in their own complicated relationships. <i>Kirkus Reviews</i> says this funny and moving debut novel is “warm, hopeful, [and] often charming” as it explores what it means to grow as a family when the only constant is change.</p>
	<p><i>Out of the Clear Blue Sky</i> ~ Kristan Higgins</p>	<p><u>Susan Wiggs</u> says, “Your big summer read has arrived!” Lillie Silva feels like she’s lost everything: Her only child is off at college and her husband has abruptly left her for another woman. However, instead of being heartbroken, Lillie finds herself feeling angry... and for the first time in her life, she realizes it’s time to do something for herself. As she puts her over-the-top revenge plots into motion, she finds unexpected connections with people from her past as she builds a new life.</p>

	<p><i>Rootless</i> ~ Krystle Zara Appiah</p>	<p>This heartrending debut novel is hailed by Onyi Nwabineli as “a beautifully honest exploration of the complexities of motherhood, marriage, family, and love.” Efe and Sam met as teenagers, and from the start they were seemingly meant to be. Efe found comfort in Sam’s determination and stability, but when the two are met with an unexpected pregnancy, they find that their values couldn’t be more different: Sam has always dreamed of fatherhood, while Efe feels like she’s living out her worst nightmare. Feeling crushed under the weight of motherhood and familial pressure, Efe disappears, hoping to rediscover her dreams and determine what she really wants for herself.</p>
	<p><i>The Double Life of Benson Yu</i> ~ Kevin Chong</p>	<p>In a 1980s Chinatown housing project, 12-year-old Benny finds himself reluctantly taken in by his eccentric neighbor, Constantine, after his grandmother is hospitalized. As the modern-day narrator, bestselling comic book author Yu recounts Benny’s story, but he finds himself drawn into the darker truths of his upbringing — risking both his own fate and Benny’s.</p>
	<p><i>Simply Lies</i> ~David Baldacci</p>	<p>David Baldacci is back with this riveting tale about two women in a dangerous battle of wits. Single mom Mickey Gibson is a former detective who works remotely to track down wealthy tax evaders. When a colleague named Arlene Robinson asks her to inventory an empty home, Mickey finds herself in the middle of a murder investigation — and she’s the prime suspect. Turns out Arlene doesn’t exist and Mickey’s life is about to be ruined... unless she can find the woman who set her up.</p>
	<p><i>Identity</i> ~ Nora Roberts</p>	<p>Beloved author Nora Roberts returns with a suspenseful story full of thrilling danger and passionate romance! Morgan Albright is finally finding peace as she settles into her new neighborhood with her roommate — until Nina’s murdered and the perpetrator is none other than the flirty guy she invited to her dinner party. With a killer on the loose, Nina returns to her mother’s home in small-town Vermont to hide out, but as she struggles to start fresh, she develops an unexpected connection with handsome local Miles Jameson.</p>
	<p><i>The Lie Maker</i> ~ Linwood Barclay</p>	<p>The New York Times bestselling author of <i>Take Your Breath Away</i> is back with another page-turning thriller! Jack Givins was just a child when his father was taken into witness protection, leaving him and his mother on their own. Now a published author, Jack is recruited by the US marshals to create false histories for other people in witness protection — opening a door for him to find his dad. But Jack isn’t the only one looking for his father...</p>



IRS Question: Changes to Bylaws

The question was asked recently, “We have 501(c)(3) designation. Are we required to report bylaws changes to the IRS?” Here is what the IRS website says: “An exempt organization must report name, address and structural and operational changes to the IRS. If an organization files an annual return (such as a form 990 or 990-EZ), it must report the changes on its return. If the organization needs to report a change of name, see [Change of Name- Exempt Organizations](#). If it needs to report a change of address, see [Change of Address - Exempt Organizations](#). The [EO Determinations Office](#) can issue an [affirmation letter](#) showing an organization's new name and/or address and affirming the section of the Internal Revenue Code under which IRS records show the organization as tax-exempt and whether contributions to the organization are deductible.”

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/exempt-organizations-reporting-changes-to-irs>

The IRS wants to be assured that your organization still qualifies for its nonprofit status. The minor changes mostly made to bylaws will not affect your status, so don't worry about submitting them.

Looking ahead to Banned Books Week October 1-7, 2023,
here are 2 articles to read for information on Book Bannings.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/04/25/1172024559/book-bans-spike-biden-culture-wars-lgbtq-gender-queer-libraries>

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/biden-anti-book-ban-coordinator-new-lgbtq-protections/>



Here are May's top ten titles (another month of shakeups on the list!) searched in library catalogs that include NoveList Select:

1. *Happy Place* by Emily Henry
2. *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese
3. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
4. *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover
5. *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
6. *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano
7. *It Starts With Us* by Colleen Hoover
8. *Simply Lies* by David Baldacci
9. *The 23rd Midnight* by James Patterson
10. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover



It's a Win! for Friends' Advocacy!

By Judy Hills

A few months ago, we reported that the Down East Public Library in Carteret County was at risk of being closed due to an issue with the building lease. This politically charged situation rankled the Friends that support that library and they took action. They advocated to keep the library open. The Friends did not particularly care where—they just want to ensure that the citizens of this small community were provided equal access to library services as the other parts of the county. They researched the issue; they wrote letters; they contacted their county and state representatives; they appeared at county commissioner meetings; and they spoke to any group that would listen—all elements of a well-thought-out advocacy campaign.

Now we are happy to report that their efforts were successful. Carteret County commissioners recently approved a lease of new space for the Down East Library as part of the consent agenda – a list of items that can be approved with one vote. An item placed on the consent agenda means that there is no expected controversy and that it is anticipated that the issue will pass without discussion. The lease is for approximately 1,200 square feet, the storefront portion of a building. The new location is just a few miles from the old location. [Click here](#) to read the story.

We hope this example energizes Friends whose libraries are faced with this or other significant issues. Your advocacy can make a difference in the outcome. You never know unless you try.

Building a Spanish Language Collection

Except from article by Shauna Griffin, NoveList. 5/10/23

It's an obvious statement of fact that a community is composed of the many people in it, all with different needs, whether they use the library or not. One barrier to access, perceived or real, is language. Do members of your community, for whom English is not their primary language, feel welcome in your library? Do you have content for them? Do your signs meet their needs? Do you have staff who can speak to them one-on-one?

While we can't necessarily teach you a new language, we can at least help ensure that your library staff can meet the needs of any Spanish speakers who come to your library, whether you or your colleagues speak Spanish fluently or not. [Core Collection en Español](#), which [officially launched earlier this year](#), is built off the recommendations of librarians working with Spanish-speaking communities across the U.S. It contains fiction and nonfiction for adults, teens, and children. If you're looking to build a new collection in Spanish or support an existing one, this new database is a must-have.

While the database uses English terminology (genres, reviews, summaries, and so on), the books themselves are in Spanish (with some bilingual picture books!), and often include Spanish-language summaries. Whether you're looking for picture books for Spanish-speaking parents to read to their kids, juvie nonfiction in support of homework help, literary fiction from Latin America, popular science fiction translated into Spanish, poetry, ESL materials, or business bios, we can help.

Searching and browsing for content within Core Collection en Español is a breeze. It includes:

- Titles both translated to and originally in Spanish
- Reviews where available
- Evaluative excerpts from our selectors
- Recommendation levels
- Cataloging terms you're used to from other Core Collection and NoveList databases in English.

If you are looking to start, maintain, bulk up, or right-size your collection for Spanish speakers, Core Collection en Español can help. If you want to familiarize yourself with what's available, the English-language metadata and summaries found within can help. And if you want to market your collection — guess what? The Spanish-language summaries can help. And as the collection continues to add new titles, we can help keep your collection growing too.



Here's a fantastic artistic project!!

from Kim Eaton at Caswell Friends of the Library

Several sets of outdated encyclopedia type book sets have been donated ("offloaded") to the Gunn Memorial Library in Caswell County. As you are probably aware, these are hard to dispose of. I came up with the idea of our Friends group creating folded books from these discards and, if things go well, sell them at a community event later in the year. There is a group of cross stitchers who meet at the library who have asked me to teach a class. So maybe I'll find one or more others to fold books. It will take years to fold all the books available but I'm making a small dent.



She is so talented!



Great
Fundraiser
Idea!!

Contact Kim
for more
info!

THE QUESTION OF RAFFLES—ARE YOUR FRIENDS COMPLIANT?

By Judy Hills, FONCPL President

This past month, the question of raffles came up. One Friends group contacted the NC Department of Revenue about raffles and were told, **“You may run one raffle annually and not be subject to sales tax. If you run other than one annual fundraiser/raffle, you must collect and remit sales tax.”** We want to clarify the process of holding raffles.

The NC General Statutes consider raffles as a form of gambling and are generally unlawful in the state of NC. However, there is an exception that allows four raffles per year for each tax-exempt non-profit organization (i.e., for each Friends group).

The following material is from the [NCDOR 2022 State Taxation and Nonprofit Organizations Guide](#):

What do I need to conduct a raffle or bingo? “... There is no formal registration required for a nonprofit organization to conduct a raffle. However, the nonprofit organization must have obtained a tax-exempt letter from the North Carolina Department of Revenue and must display it where the raffle is conducted.” (p.18)

How does my nonprofit organization apply for (or obtain) tax-exempt status? “Send to the Department a copy of your Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (if incorporated) or your Bylaws, Constitution, or other organizational documents (if not incorporated) and a copy of your Federal Determination Letter (if obtained). These documents should be sent to: North Carolina Department of Revenue Corporate Tax Division Nonprofit Corporate Tax Post Office Box 871 Raleigh, NC 27602-0871.” (p. 17) “Upon receipt and review of the nonprofit organization's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Department will issue a letter indicating the organization's tax status in North Carolina (tax-exempt letter).”

Regarding how many raffles a nonprofit may hold:

[§ 14-309.15. Raffles.](#) (a) It is lawful for any nonprofit organization, candidate, political committee, or any government entity within the State, to conduct raffles in accordance with this section. Each regional or county chapter of a nonprofit organization is eligible to conduct raffles in accordance with this section independently of its parent organization. Any person who conducts a raffle in violation of any provision of this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. Upon conviction that person shall not conduct a raffle for a period of one year. It is lawful to participate in a raffle conducted pursuant to this section. It is not a violation of State law to advertise a raffle conducted in accordance with this section. A raffle conducted pursuant to this section is not "gambling." For the purpose of this section, "candidate" and "political committee" have the meaning provided by Article 22A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes, who have filed organization reports under that Article, and who are in good standing with the appropriate board of elections. Receipts and expenditures of a raffle by a candidate or political committee shall be reported in accordance with Article 22A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes, and ticket purchases are contributions within the meaning of that Article. (b) For purposes of this section "raffle" means a game in which the prize is won by random drawing of the name or number of one or more persons purchasing chances. (c) **A nonprofit organization may hold no more than four raffles per year.**

And in case you are wondering, a drawing conducted for door prizes by a nonprofit at a fee-generating function constitutes a raffle (Opinion of NC Attorney General's office dated July 20, 1993). It does not matter whether or not the ticket for the door prize was purchased or given at this fee-generating function. Under both circumstances, it is considered a raffle. Read more about raffles and alcohol consumption (but note that the NC law has changed, four raffles may be held per year, not the two mentioned): [click here](#). And, 50/50 drawings are raffles as well.

There are also rules about raffles and consumption of alcohol.

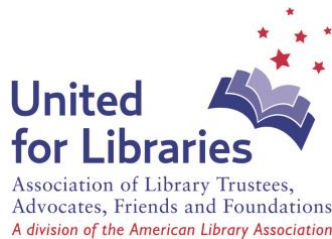
If you are running raffles with big prizes (cash or other prizes), in addition to complying with state laws, you also must comply with IRS rules. [Click here](#) to read this IRS publication on Tax-Exempt Organizations and Raffle Prizes.

“Raffles remain a popular and oftentimes effective means of fundraising for a nonprofit. They are not, however, without their own risk and nonprofits that hold raffles without understanding and complying with the law may themselves be engaged in gambling.” (Quote: NC Attorney Melanie Tuttle)

[Click here](#) for an example of a raffle run by a nonprofit Legal Services Program in NC.

Free July 18 webinar: *'Get Ready for National Friends of Libraries Week'*

United for Libraries will present a free webinar, [Get Ready for National Friends of Libraries Week](#), on July 18, 7 p.m. Eastern. Library Friends groups of all sizes will learn new and innovative ideas for celebrating National Friends of Libraries Week (Oct. 15-21, 2023). Find out how to kick off your planning, what free materials are available to download, and how to engage your library and community.



Get Ready for National Friends of Libraries Week

Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Duration: 60 minutes

Start Time: 7:00 p.m. Eastern | 6:00 p.m. Central | 5:00 p.m.

Mountain | 4:00 p.m. Pacific | 3:00 p.m. Alaska

**This webinar will be recorded and available to watch on-demand.

Description:

Library Friends groups of all sizes will learn new and innovative ideas for celebrating. National Friends of Libraries Week (Oct. 15-21, 2023). Find out how to kick off your planning, what free materials are available to download, and how to engage your library and community.

If you have any questions, please contact United for Libraries:

Phone: 312-280-2161

Toll Free: 800-545-2433, ext. 2161

Email: united@ala.org

The US Postal Service is warning users against sending check through the mail because more of them than ever are getting stolen. The number of thefts has doubled in 2021 to 680,000 incidents. They advise, "Credit card method is always the safest method because you have the most legal recourse and the most amount of time should a transaction go awry."

[Click here](#) to read the article (CBS News).



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

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

