



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
May 2024

Hello Friends,

My Friends of the New Bern-Craven County Public Library just completed their semi-annual book sale. It was a full week of intensive, sometimes back-breaking work. I don't know how much longer my old back is going to last—which brings me to the topic of sustaining our Friends. Certainly, Friends are not the only nonprofit civic group having this issue of older members dropping out. That's going to happen at some point, no matter what we do. As we age, our bodies and our minds don't work quite as well as they used to and we find ourselves pulling back from activities we used to relish. How much thought has your Friends given this subject? And what alternatives have you thought of to ensure your group stays viable?

Who is our target audience and what's the message? It can't be a cry for help—that's more of a turnoff than anything. Their job isn't to "save" the Friends. We have to show value for their time. We must answer the question, "What's in it for me?"

What do you know about generations? Here they are in order: Greatest Generation (born 1901 to 1927), Silent Generation (born 1928-1945), Baby Boom Generation (born 1946 to 1964), Generation X (born 1965 to 1980), Generation Y or Millennial (born 1981 to 1996), Generation Z or iGen (born 1997 to 2010) and Gen Alpha (born 2010 to 2024). Each one of these generations has characteristics that impact their interest in joining groups. "In the past year, 47% of associations reported a decline in total membership...On average, 71% of an association's member base is comprised of members over the age of 40...In order to turn numbers like these around, associations must learn how to understand and serve the next generation of professionals. Their needs, career goals, and expectations of member communities are completely different from those of older generations." [Click here](#) to read more.

Here are some reasons reported for why associations are unsuccessful in recruiting the younger generations: 1) You are not meeting them where they are; 2) You aren't supporting their zig-zag career trajectories; 3) You're not creating the experiences they want; 4) You haven't proven the value matches the price point; and 5) Your communications are not personalized.

Here are some ideas for recruiting younger members. Figure out what age group you want to target. Early retirees (55+) may be prime candidates. They might have just moved into your community; they are at the stage in their lives where they are looking for new hobbies and expanding their horizons. Technology is the key to attracting and retaining this group. This means using social media, a good website, and a mobile app to keep it. Instagram and TikTok are places to start. Facebook is not as popular as it once was and is not much used by the younger generations. But what is equally important as choosing the right technology is ensuring the content is fresh and up-to-date.

Ensuring your Friends are socially conscious is another way to attract younger members (e.g., gender equity, LGBTQIA+ rights, and climate activism). Having a strong agenda and schedule of events for the year shows that your Friends are active in the community. Showing them a value proposition that resonates. Collecting and using data to make decisions. Specifically, inviting them to engage. Telling great stories related to your mission. The first year of membership is critical—it is not enough just to recruit—you need to retain members once they join.

So, we invite you to assess your membership and set specific goals to ensure the sustainability of your Friends. If your Friends have a sustainability plan, please share it with FONCPL.

Yours in Friendship,

Judy Hills, President

FRIENDS GROUPS THAT HAVE JOINED 2024

Alamance County Public Library
Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library
Alleghany County Public Library
Ashe County Public Library
Bladen County Library
Bogue Banks Public Library
Braswell Memorial Library
Burke County Public Library
Caldwell County Library
Carrboro Branch Library
Carteret County Public Library
Caswell Library
Catawba County Library
Cleveland County Memorial Library
Concord Library
Cove City – Craven County Library
Cumberland County Library
Durham Library
Goldston Public Library
Havelock-Craven County Library
Haywood County Library
Hickory Public Library
Hocutt Ellington Memorial Library
Hot Springs Library
Jackson County Public Library
Johnston County/Smithfield Library
Kernersville Library (Paddison)
Lewisville Library
Lexington Library
Madison County Library (aka Marshall Library)
Malloy/Jordan East Winston Heritage Center
Marianna Black Library
Mars Hill Public Library
Midland Library
Mountains Branch Library
New Bern-Craven Co Public Library
New Hanover County Public Library
Orange County Public Library
Rourk Branch Library
Rube McCray Memorial Library
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library
Sneads Ferry Library
South Buncombe Library
Southport/Oak Island Library
Southwest Brunswick Branch Library
Stanly County Public Library
Swansboro Public Library
Topsail Township Library
Transylvania County Library
Union County Public Library
Vanceboro-Craven Co Public Library
Walkertown Library
Watauga County Public Library
Western Carteret Public Library
Western Watauga
Wren Memorial Library



INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE JOINED APRIL 2024

Christine Alyea
Tim Como
Kim Eaton
Julie Flick
Diana Fotinatos
Judy Hills
Jack James
Sylvia King
Katie Lake
Kathy Lambe
Lynda Marsh
Liz Martin
Bill Oelkers
Melissa J. Oleen
Lynda Reynolds
Karen Robbins
Karen Schrader
Marilyn Shapiro
Joyce Speas
Cindy Stewart
Joanne Straight
Tess Thais
Trisha Wilkins

To join FONCPL, please visit:

<https://foncpl.org>

Group memberships are open to
Friends and public libraries.

Individual Memberships are available also.



HOW TO HOST A FRIENDS' WORKSHOP

by Judy Hills, FONCPL President

FONCPL is offering \$100 to help defray expenses for any group of Friends that would like to invite at least six other groups of Friends to attend. We have already had some interest, but there have been questions about the process. Here are some answers using the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) format.

Q. How can we identify Friends groups to invite?

A. If you will email me (jahnbn@gmail.com) I will send you names and contact information for Friends groups in your county and contiguous counties. Send the name of your group, the county you are located in, and contact information for the person coordinating the workshop. This is our best information and it may or may not be correct. We would appreciate you providing feedback to FONCPL about any incorrect information.

Q. Are we restricted in the number of Friends groups that we can invite?

A. No, but the minimum is six other groups. You only need to invite them—you cannot control whether or not they attend.

Q. Are there any restrictions on the \$100?

A. No. As long as your group hosts the six other Friends groups, you can use the money as you deem necessary.

Q. Should we ask those attending to reserve a space?

A. This is always a good idea so you can make sure you have adequate seating and food if you plan to serve something. Signup Genius is one free online registration program you could use.

Q. Where is the best place to host the meeting?

A. Ideally, in your library, but any place that will accommodate about 30 people will work. Be sure it is easy to locate, is in a safe area, and has adequate parking.

Q. When is the best time to hold the workshop?

A. That may depend on the space you are using. We recommend it be held on a Saturday so those that are still working can attend. Spring and fall are busy times for most Friends, so summer or winter are better times to host the workshop.

Q. What equipment do we need?

A. If your library has a smart board—that is ideal. You can use it to show YouTube videos and it can also be used to Zoom with a presenter that is in another location. A presenter can also show a PPT presentation on it. Other than that, what you need in the way of equipment will depend on presenters and presentations.

Q. How long should the meeting be?

A. 3 to 5 hours. Don't start before 10 AM or end after 3 PM. This will give your attendees time to drive to and from the host location.

Q. Do we have to provide snacks or lunch?

A. This is entirely up to your group. It is always more hospitable to provide something to eat and drink. If you continue past noon, you should provide a light lunch.

Q. Can we provide door prizes or SWAG?

A. Sure—if you want.

Q. Should we have a sign-in sheet?

A. Yes. It is always a best practice to know who is attending the workshop (name, email address, county, Friends group). Please share this with FONCPL after the workshop.

Q. Will FONCPL help us publicize the workshop?

A. Absolutely, but you must give us adequate notice and information. We recommend creating a flyer. We'd like to publish the flyer and schedule of workshops in our monthly newsletter so any interested Friend could attend, not just those from the six other groups you invite. They might have an interest in a specific topic.

Q. What formats are recommended?

A. This will depend on topics and presenters. Suggestions include: welcome by host Friends group president, keynote speaker, YouTube videos, Zoom presentations by off-site presenters, panel discussion, roundtable discussions, open discussion, lectures, demonstrations, simulations, games, and exercises. It is always more interesting to mix these up and to give the attendees opportunities to move around the room.

Q. What topics are appropriate?

A. Any topic related to the running of a successful nonprofit and any topic of interest to Friends of the Library. Here are some suggestions: Board training and governance, bylaws, compliance with NC laws, understanding and managing your Friend's money and assets, working with your library, addressing community literacy, collaborating with other community groups, book sales, fundraisers, programs, competitions, author events, membership issues (attracting/retaining), advocacy, book challenges and banning, FONCPL, online sale of books to buyback companies, volunteering at the library, annual reports, event planning, grants and grant writing, new member orientation, speakers bureau, smoothing rocky relationships, setting up an endowment, online silent book auction, StoryWalks, Little Free Libraries, effective communication, newsletters, to name a few.

Q. Could FONCPL help us with presenters?

A. The FONCPL website has YouTube videos in the workshop tab. You could show the video and then discuss the material. If we have a Board member who lives nearby, we will see if they might be able to attend and present. If the distance is too great, we might be able to work out a Zoom presentation. Our website resource section has lots of handouts that would be of interest.

Q. Anything else we should know?

A. **During the welcome address please recognize FONCPL for our assistance and encourage Friends to be members of FONCPL both as groups and as individuals.** FONCPL would like to receive a copy of the flyer, the agenda, the attendance sheet, and an after-action report so we can evaluate the effectiveness of this offering. Please give us pertinent feedback. This will help us decide whether or not to continue to do this next year. Good luck!\

Q. Who should we contact if we have additional questions?

A. Contact FONCPL President Judy Hills. 252.670.1913 or jahnbnc@gmail.com

Memorial Day Monday May 27, 2024

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them.

~ John F. Kennedy

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same. ~ Ronald Reagan

Each of the patriots whom we remember on this day was first a beloved son or daughter, a brother or sister, or a spouse, friend, and neighbor.

~ George H. W. Bush

It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God such men lived. ~ George S. Patton

Their remembrance be as lasting as the land they honored.

~ Daniel Webster

Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it. ~ Unknown

This nation will remain the land of the free only as long as it is home of the brave. ~ Elmer Davis

Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime. ~ Adlai E. Stevenson II

A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with his freedom. ~ Bob Dylan

How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes. ~ Maya Angelou

Look what is happening at Clayton Friends of the Library!

Author Charles M. Clemmons at the Author Expo!



And their successful Book Sale!



Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library

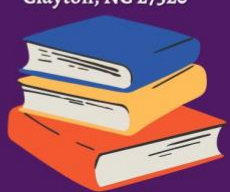
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
USED BOOK SALE**

Join us in the
Clayton Council Chambers
for the
Friends of the Library
annual used book sale!

Friday, April 12
1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
\$15/bag

Saturday, April 13
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
\$10/bag

111 E. 2nd Street
Clayton, NC 27520



Pictures from the Solar Eclipse



Partial solar eclipse Mazatlan Mexico



Partial solar eclipse Liberty Island NY



Partial eclipse shines through Statue of Liberty



Statue of Freedom
on top of US Capitol

Such a fun idea from Friends of the Mooresville Public Library!!
Thought we would share!

NEWS FROM *The Friends*



News From the Friends: Children's Book Swap

We apologize for the mid-month email, but we wanted to make sure everyone knew about the Children's Book Swap!

The 2024 Children's Book Swap will take place at both the Main Library and the West Branch on April 20 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Patrons can drop off their gently used children's and young adult books during the week leading up to the swap at either location at the following times:

Monday-Thursday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Books will not be collected by Library staff outside of these times.

On Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., patrons can come back to the location where they dropped off their used books to pick up "new to you" books for their collections! We'd recommend arriving early, as books do go quickly.

Special thanks to our sponsor, Lembo Montgomery Dentistry, for donating 100 new children's books for the Swap!

Just some
Interesting
Pop
Culture!

✓ Peanuts in every full-sized
Snickers bar

16

✓ Pounds of chocolate eaten per
capita, per year in Switzerland
(the most in the world)

19.4

✓ Mars, Inc.'s 2023 revenue

\$50 billion

✓ Snickers bars produced every
day

15 million+

Instagram's Most Followed



🏀 Athlete
🎬 Actor

🎵 Musician
💜 Personality

1 624M
FOLLOWERS
CRISTIANO RONALDO

2 501M
LIONEL MESSI

3 430M
SELENA GOMEZ

4 400M
KYLIE JENNER

5 398M
DWAYNE JOHNSON

380M 6
ARIANA GRANDE

364M 7
KIM KARDASHIAN

320M 8
BEYONCÉ

311M 9
KHLOÉ KARDASHIAN

295M 10
KENDALL JENNER

Sources: socialblade.com,
celebritynetworth.com (March 2024)





BOOKCLUBS



Best Indie Book Club Picks for Spring 2024

DISCOVER

Night Falls on Predicament Avenue	Jaime Jo Wright	<p>In 1910, Midwesterner Effie joins forces with a British newcomer to discover what lies behind the doors of the abandoned house on Predicament Avenue.</p> <p>In the present day, Norah reluctantly inherits the house turned bed and breakfast, where her first guest, a crime historian and podcaster, is set on uncovering the truth about what haunts this place.</p>
Long After We Are Gone	Terah Shelton Harris	<p>An explosive and emotional story of four siblings—each fighting their own personal battle—who return home in the wake of their father's death in order to save their family's home from being sold out from under them, from the author of <i>One Summer in Savannah</i>.</p>
Fanning Fireflies	LS Delorme	<p>In 1944 Harrisville, Veronica toils relentlessly to secure a meager existence, with no room for distractions. Yet, as whispers of fire and ghostly voices intrude upon her reality, along with the unsettling gaze of her boss's son, she finds herself drawn to the enigmatic Lazlo, a black soldier whose presence unsettles her further. Amidst the backdrop of a cigarette factory harboring dark secrets, Veronica's journey unveils the long-buried truths of her hometown, revealing the pervasive rot beneath its surface.</p>
Mother Country	Monique Charlesworth	<p>Inge was German, half-Jewish and a Holocaust survivor, all of which she chose to deny. Talented and able, charismatic and infuriating, she surged through life constantly reinventing herself. Sent out of Nazi Germany to the souks of Meknes, she fled a freezing attic in war-torn Brussels to land in a council estate in Birkenhead. London offered the escapee a new start until her past caught up with her. Triumph finally came in France where nobody knew who she was — least of all the friends who adored her.</p>
Community Klepto	Kelly I. Hitchcock	<p>Ann Josephson is a twenty-something sociopath who dodges her friends, well-to-do parents, and even her graphic design job when she can—and she works from home. But she goes religiously to the gym. But when she arrives, her anxiety reaches fever pitch, expressing itself as compulsive kleptomania. Set in suburban Kansas City in the early 2010's, COMMUNITY KLEPTO is a darkly humorous and compelling tale of a troubled young woman who discovers what risks are really worth taking, and that hope is fragile—but possible.</p>
The Stark Beauty of Last Things	Celine Keating	<p>In this timely and engrossing novel, a small web of people wrestle over the fate of the last undeveloped stretch of wild land in Montauk, a town on the far reaches of Long Island at risk from climate change. Keating writes movingly of</p>

		our bonds to nature and our bonds to each other, and her deft, surprising, and even ingenious ending offers unexpected hope for our time.
Such a Bad Influence	Olivia Muentner	An electric debut thriller about what happens when one of the first child stars of the social media age grows up . . . and goes missing.
Crimson Fall	Tara Dee	A search for a missing 26-year-old sends Aniruddha Jha and Joyita Roy—Ronny & Jo—into the underbelly of IT businesses in Washington, D.C., and the private lives of vulnerable Indian tech workers.
The Bishop and the Butterfly	Michael Wolraich	This captivating narrative by journalist Wolraich (author of <i>Unreasonable Men</i>) delves into the world of mobsters and wrongdoing in 1930s Manhattan, focusing on the homicide of actor Vivian Gordon.
The Goldie Standard	Simi Monheit	Maxie needs a husband according to her grandmother Goldie. But not just any husband. . . . Hilarious and surprising, this unapologetically Jewish story delivers a present-day take on a highly creative grandmother trying to find her PH.D granddaughter a husband who is a doctor – with a yarmulke, of course.
The Witch of New York: The Trials of Polly Bodine and the Cursed Birth of Tabloid Justice	Alex Hortis	Before the sensational cases of Amanda Knox and Casey Anthony—before even Lizzie Borden—there was Polly Bodine, the first American woman put on trial for capital murder in our nation's debut media circus.
A Good Happy Girl	Marissa Higgins	A poignant, surprising, and immersive read about a young professional woman pursuing an emotionally intense relationship with a married lesbian couple, for readers of Kristen Arnett and Melissa Broder. In Higgins's striking and visceral debut, a 30-something woman copes with her childhood trauma by nursing a cough syrup addiction and fostering a masochistic relationship with a lesbian couple....

TOP 10 BOOKS FOR BOOK CLUBS OF 2023





The Paddison Memorial Branch Friends of the Library (Kernersville, Forsyth County) has a new logo! The logo was designed by Josh Cocca, Owner of Timberwolf Creative. The Friends group worked with Josh and chose this design based on its visual appeal, display of growth, sense of whimsy, and the incorporation of the “honeybee” as a representation of the Kernersville being instrumental in making it the State Insect and our annual Kernersville Honeybee Festival. We are excited to rebrand ourselves over the coming months.

Here is something really cool to learn:

https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/how-is-glass-made?utm_source=join1440&utm_medium=email&utm_placement=newsletter

For Mother’s Day Displays:



For Memorial Day Displays:



Excerpt from

These Are the World's Happiest Countries in 2024

by Lyndsey Matthews, Michelle Baran March 20, 2024

*The World Happiness Report is out with its latest country rankings.
Here's a look at the countries that topped the list –*

In 2012, the United Nations declare March 20 as the [International Day of Happiness](#). Twelve years later, the [2024 World Happiness Report](#) which just released its latest rankings of the world's happiest countries, zeroed in on the happiness of people at different stages of life.

Regardless of whether you're young or old, these are the countries where people rate themselves as happiest and are most satisfied with their lives.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Finland | 11. New Zealand | 21. Slovenia |
| 2. Denmark | 12. Costa Rica | 22. United Arab Emirates |
| 3. Iceland | 13. Kuwait | 23. United States |
| 4. Sweden | 14. Austria | 24. Germany |
| 5. Israel | 15. Canada | 25. Mexico |
| 6. Netherlands | 16. Belgium | 26. Uruguay |
| 7. Norway | 17. Ireland | 27. France |
| 8. Luxembourg | 18. Czechia | 28. Saudi Arabia |
| 9. Switzerland | 19. Lithuania | 29. Kosovo |
| 10. Australia | 20. United Kingdom | 30. Singapore |

An excerpt from

13 Slang Words Gen Zers are using in 2024 and what they really mean

by Mykenna Maniece 4/9/24 for Business Insider

If you're told to do something "for the plot," it means to do it for the experience.

Someone with "rizz" has charisma.

If someone gives you "the ick," it means they've turned you off, either through their actions or behaviors or something they said.

If someone lives "rent-free" in your mind, you think about them a lot.

If someone "ate," they executed something flawlessly.

"Left no crumbs" is a continuation of "ate" that's used as additional emphasis.

"Bussin" or "buss" means it's very good.

Something is "mid" if it falls short of expectations.

Another way to say focus is "lock in."

"Let him cook" means don't stop him from doing his thing.

"Delulu" simply means delusional.



Friends of the Walkertown Library

had an “Inaugural Friends of Forsyth County Libraries” Tea. They said it was a great meeting of the minds to collaborate how to best help the libraries and their community.



The Friends of Walkertown Library is not just a supportive group for their library but a strong promoter of reading in their community. They have started a new program working with several of the local schools where each student has the opportunity to pick out a book to keep with bookmarks and Friends of the Library stickers in them. When the programs are completed, over 1,000 students in Walkertown will have a new book of their very own!

They also have started a book club with one school.....each student reads the book and there are discussions at different levels.

As President of Friends of the Walkertown Library, I am very proud of our group. Everyone has worked very hard to reach many young children & hopefully inspire the fun and love of reading – we have made a difference!

~Jan Komorowski, President

Oh
No!

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Postal Service signaled plans Tuesday for a rate increase that includes hiking the cost of a first-class stamp from 68 cents to 73 cents, part of an overall 7.8% increase to take effect this summer.

The request was made to the Postal Regulatory Commission, which must approve the proposed increase that the Postal Service contends is necessary to achieve financial stability. If approved, the 5-cent increase for a “forever” stamp and similar increases for postcards, metered letters and international mail would take effect July 14.

U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy previously warned postal customers to get used to “uncomfortable” rate hikes as the Postal Service seeks to become self-sufficient. He said price increases were overdue after “at least 10 years of a defective pricing model.”

In its filing, the Postal Service said it’s also seeking price adjustments on special services such as money order fees and certified mail. But there will be no price increase for post office box rentals, and postal insurance will be reduced by 10% when items are mailed, the postal service said.

Heinz Teamed Up With Mattel to Bring Us the Mashup We Didn’t Know We Needed: ‘Barbiecue’ Sauce

By

Emily Price 4/14/2024

Hey, Barbie! Want some barbecue?

As a salute to Barbie’s 65th anniversary, Mattel and Heinz UK announced the kind of unconventional collaboration that just made our heads turn: Heinz Classic Barbiecue Sauce. And no, that’s not a typo; we really did mean to say Barbiecue.

The special sauce of sorts, which is a mix of vegan mayonnaise and barbecue sauce, is the condiment mashup that none of us knew we needed — but apparently asked for. And yes, it’s Barbie pink, lest anyone not realize that the sauce you’re dipping your fries into isn’t Barbie-themed.

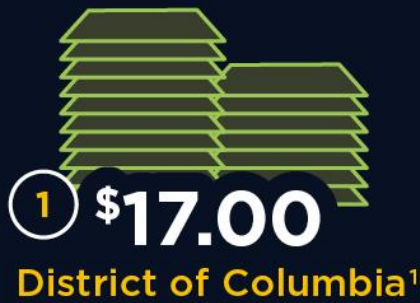
Heinz UK teased the sauce in an Instagram post in August of last year — alongside a bottle of the only thing that could possibly be paired with it: You guessed it, Tomato *Kenchup*.

In the post, Heinz asked if they should “make this dream team a reality.” Naturally, Instagram users were quick to respond that the pink condiments were, in fact, something they needed in their lives.

‘KENCHUP’ MIGHT BE NEXT!



Which U.S. States Have The Highest Minimum Wage?



Source: Bloomberg Law, Data as of Jan. 1, 2024

1. DC: Indexes hourly min. wage rate to inflation

2. NJ: seasonal/small employer (≤ 5 employees) = \$13.90, Agricultural employers = \$12.81, long-term care facility direct care staff = \$18.13

3. NY: New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester counties = \$16.00

4. OR: Indexes hourly min. wage rate to inflation. Nonurban counties = \$13.20, Portland Metro = \$15.45



Open

Mic Night

with Judy!



Wednesday May 15
7:00 pm

Discussion:
Member recruitment

To join in the discussion by computer:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84964974725?pwd=NSs1b1h5WE1lbGRDaXUrSDQwYXRfZz09>

If calling on mobile: 305.224.1968
Meeting ID: 849 6497 4725
Passcode: 834915

**This is the last Open Mic
until September!!**

I WAS GOING TO CLEAN
THE HOUSE, BUT THEN I
REALIZED, THIS BOOK
ISN'T GOING TO READ
ITSELF...



**2024
FONCPL
Board**

President

Judy Hills (Craven)

jahnbnc@gmail.com

Secretary

Joanne Straight (Craven)

jostraight@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tim Como (Catawba)

826mechanic@gmail.com

Director

Joyce Speas (Alleghany)

Joyce.speas73@gmail.com

Director

Kathy Lambe (Forsyth)

klambe@me.com

Director

Lyn Marsh (Forsyth)

mclincoln1@gmail.com

Director

Tess Thais (Haywood)

Tessthais88@gmail.com

Director

Karen Robbins (Brunswick)

robbinska31@gmail.com

Library of NC Liaison

Lynda Reynolds

Lynda.reynolds@dncr.nc.gov

Please remember to send in any articles or pictures to klambe@me.com

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY!

