

JUNE, JULY & AUGUST 2026

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

CAROLINE COUNTY LIBRARY'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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The dinosaurs are coming! This summer at Caroline County Library, we will be hosting some of our prehistoric pals, including our triceratops friend, Digby (pictured above), as part of the Summer Reading Program: Unearth a Story. There will be dinosaurs aplenty around the various branches, so be sure to stop in and say hi! We'll also have many fun and exciting programs, passive activities, and special events, including a Whale Talk (pg. 6) at the Caroline County Visitor's Center and a Live Birds of Prey Presentation (pg. 6) at the Caroline Community Center! Be sure to stop in to see how your local library can help you unearth a story!

Branch Closings

Friday, June 19

All Branches

CLOSED

Juneteenth

Friday, July 3 —

Saturday, July 4

All Branches

CLOSED

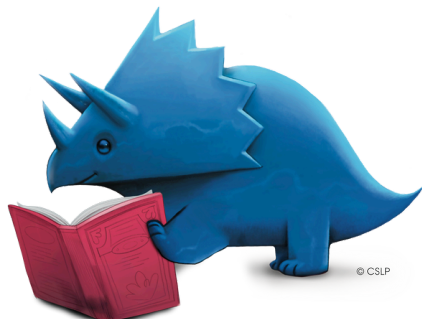
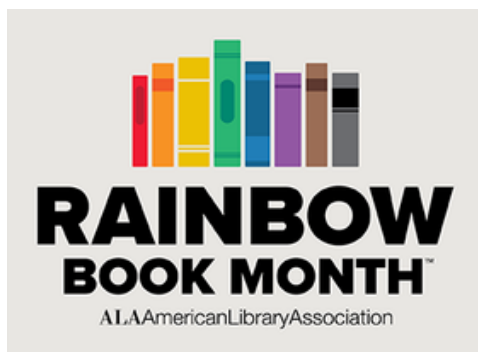
Independence Day

Tuesday, August 4

Dawn & Port Royal

CLOSED

Election Primaries



Welcome From The Director

Welcome to the summer edition of Library Happenings! Prepare to have a rip-roaring good time at our library branches this summer. This year's theme is "Unearth a Story" which focuses on dinosaurs, paleontology, and archaeology in our programs. We'll kick off on June 8th with special events in partnership with the Caroline County Economic Development and the Virginia Museum of Natural History. We'd love to introduce you all to Spouticus, an ancient whale discovered here in Caroline County! You can find more information about those programs on page 6. You can also visit with the dinosaurs' closest cousins during our Birds of Prey demonstration on July 8th! Even if you can't come to one of our bigger events, most of our programs will have a prehistoric spin on them, so there will be dinosaur-themed story times, scavenger hunts, art workshops, and more. I encourage everyone to come out for some prehistoric fun and games this summer at the library!

Megan Upshaw
Library Director

Children's Storytime!

Mother Goose Storytime

Ages 0-2. Stories, songs and rhymes for babies and toddlers with their caregiver.

Tuesdays at 10:00 AM

Ladysmith Branch

Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Bowling Green Branch

Preschool Storytime

Ages 2-5. Stories, crafts and more for young children with their parent and/or guardian.

Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Ladysmith Branch

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Bowling Green Branch



Family Storytime

All Ages. Stories and a craft.

Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Dawn Branch



Track your reading and participate in reading challenges on your mobile device with the Beanstack Tracker app.

Scan the QR Code to download the app!



Upcoming Challenges:



Unearth A Story Summer Reading Challenge June 1 - August 31

Challenge is available for all age ranges and will last all summer long!



Month of July: America 250

Materials used in Beanstack Challenges can also be used for our in-person Summer Reading Program.

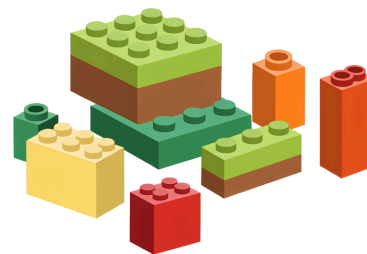
Youth Programs

➤ LEGO Club

Ages 6+. Participate in themed building challenges or free build. LEGOs are provided.

Every Thursday

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM | Ladysmith Branch



Summer Reading Exclusives!

June 8 - July 18

➤ Passive Activities and Take-Home Crafts

Stop by your local library branch and see what passive programs and crafts we have to offer. We will offer a variety of themed activities that focus on dinosaurs, paleontology, and archaeology!

Passive Activity | All Branches

➤ Dinosaur Themed Scavenger Hunt

Find all the dinosaur themed pictures and receive a small prize. The scavenger hunt changes each week so come back and find the pictures again!

Passive Activity | Dawn Branch



➤ Dinosaur Adoption

Come by the Dawn Branch and adopt your very own dinosaur!

Passive Activity | Dawn Branch

➤ Introduction to Engineering Drawing & Model Making

Sign-Up Required. This course is designed to expose ten middle school aged students to some of the concepts of engineering drawing and architectural model making. There is no cost to the students/parents. Most of the supplies will be provided.

Wednesdays 1 PM - 2:30 PM

June 10 - July 15 | Dawn Branch

For more information and an application, contact the Dawn Library at (804) 632-8341 or Hassanshut.usa@gmail.com

Summer Reading Exclusives!

June 8 - July 18

➤ Ladysmith Youth Programs

The Ladysmith Branch will be offering various themed activities at set times for specific age groups for the duration of Summer Reading. Visit the Ladysmith Branch or call (804) 448-0357 for more information.

- Youth - Ages 6-8, Tuesdays, 11:30 AM
- Tweens - Ages 9-12, Thursdays, 11:30 AM
- Teens - Ages 13-17, Fridays, 10:00 AM



➤ Petroglyph Painting

Ages 13+. Create a miniature cave painting using acrylic paints on smooth rocks.

June 23 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch

➤ Watercolor Pencil Workshop

Ages 10-16. Learn watercolor pencil basics and techniques to create a dinosaur theme. Space is limited, sign up is required.

June 27 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Ladysmith Branch

➤ Dinolympics

Ages 8+. Compete in the 2026 Dinolympics! Activities will include Tricera-toss, Walk Like a Dinosaur, Pottery Puzzles, and a chance to make your own Dinolympic Medal!

June 30 | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch

➤ Stratigraphy Sand Art

Ages 13-17. Create layered sand art and learn about the geological study of rock layers (strata) and their relationship to the Earth's time scale. Space is limited, sign-up is required.

July 7 | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch

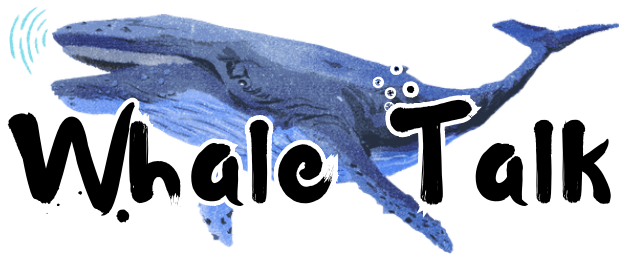
➤ Hatch-A Saurus

Ages 8+. Hatch your own baby dinosaur from a fizzy egg! Bath bomb "eggs" will be made ahead of time, and are made of skin-safe and food-grade materials. Supplies limited. Sign-up required.

July 14 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch

Summer Reading Exclusives!

June 8 - July 18



Kickoff Summer Reading with Caroline County Library by joining us for a fun and informative session where you'll learn about Spouticus, the whale fossil found in the Martin Marietta Carmel Church Quarry in 1990!

June 8th, 2026

Kids Session: 2:00 PM

Adults Session: 6:30PM

Caroline County
Visitor's Center

23724 Rogers Clark Blvd
Ruther Glen, VA 22546



LIVE BIRDS OF PREY PRESENTATION

Come see a wide variety of live birds, such as Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Falcons, Eagles, etc., in a 30-45 minute demonstration. Presented by Earthquest.

July 8th, 2026

11:00 AM

Caroline County
Community Services Center
Auditorium

17202 Richmond Tpke,
Milford VA 22514



Food & Fun Nutrition Class

Ages 5+. Learn about nutrition with Beth Jimenez from the Virginia Cooperative Family Nutrition Program.

Food Permission Forms must be filled out and returned a week before the class. Forms are available at their libraries.

Bowling Green

June 25
11:00 AM

Ladysmith

July 10
10:00 AM

Dawn

July 11
10:00 AM

Port Royal

July 13
10:00 AM

Adult Craft & Hobby Groups

➤ Quilting Group

Experienced quilters work on projects of their own. Instructions are not provided. For more information call the manager of the Ladysmith Branch at (804) 448-0357.

Every Monday | 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Ladysmith Branch

➤ Creative Hands

Explore a variety of handmade crafts. Supplies not provided. For more information call the Ladysmith Branch at (804) 448-0357.

Every Wednesday | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Ladysmith Branch

➤ Dawn Knitting and Crocheting Group

Learn to knit or crochet with instruction at the Dawn Branch! A few basic supplies are available. For more information call the Dawn Branch at (804) 632-8341.

Every Wednesday | 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM | Dawn Branch

➤ Adult Paint Night

Ages 18+. Create an acrylic painting! Stencils and example printouts available. Feel free to bring your own project or idea! Painting materials provided. Smocks not provided. Sign-up required. For more information or to sign up, visit the Bowling Green Branch or call (804) 633-5455.

Part of the Summer Reading Program: Unearth A Story.

June 17, July 1, & July 15

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch

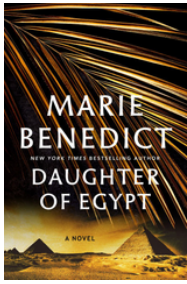
Note: Additional dates after Summer Reading:

July 29 & August 12

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Bowling Green Branch



Ladysmith Book Club



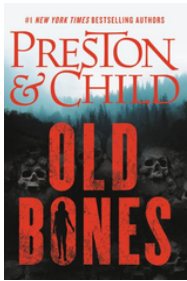
June 13, 2026

1:00 PM

Daughter of Egypt (2026)

by Marie Benedict

Common Ground Coffee Shop



July 11, 2026

1:00 PM

Old Bones (2019)

by Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child

Common Ground Coffee Shop

August, 2026

CANCELED

Meetings will resume in
September

Did You Know?

Caroline County Library offers patrons a collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines as part of our partnership with [Southern Virginia Libraries United Electronically](#) (SOVALUE).

Read or listen online or in the [Libby App](#) with your library card. A PIN number is required to login, which can be setup in-person or over the phone at any Caroline County Library branch!



Virtual Author Talks Live and On Demand, is brought to us in partnership by the Library Speaker's Consortium. LSC offers a range of talks with bestselling authors and thought leaders. Webinars can be watched live or through archived recordings by following the link or scanning the QR code below. Follow our [Facebook](#) for updates on upcoming talks.



VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

Live and On Demand

Scan the QR code or visit <https://libraryc.org/carolinelibrary> to sign up for future talks or to watch previous ones on demand.





CAROLINE COUNTY LIBRARY

www.carolinelibrary.org

Bowling Green Branch

17202 Richmond Turnpike
Milford, VA 22514

Phone: (804) 633-5455

FAX: (804) 633-9069

MON: 9:00AM-6:00PM

TUE: 9:00AM-6:00PM

WED: 9:00AM-8:00PM

THUR: 9:00AM-5:00PM

FRI: 9:00AM-5:00PM

SAT: 9:00AM-1:00PM

Ladysmith Branch

7199 Clara Smith Street
Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Phone: (804) 448-0357

FAX: (804) 448-3124

MON: 9:00AM-7:00PM

TUE: 9:00AM-7:00PM

WED: 9:00AM-7:00PM

THUR: 9:00AM-7:00PM

FRI: 9:00AM-5:00PM

SAT: 9:00AM-1:00PM

Dawn Branch

31046 Richmond Turnpike
Hanover, VA 23069

Phone: (804) 632-8341

FAX: (804) 280-0074

MON: 9:00AM-6:00PM

TUE: 9:00AM-5:00PM

WED: 9:00AM-5:00PM

THUR: 9:00AM-5:00PM

FRI: 9:00AM-5:00PM

Port Royal Branch

419 King Street
Port Royal, VA 22535

Phone: (804) 742-5254

FAX: (804) 742-5263

MON: 9:00AM-2:00PM

TUE: 9:00AM-2:00PM

WED: 11:00AM-5:00PM

SAT: 9:00AM-1:00PM



Follow us on Facebook and stay up-to-date
with library programming and events!

www.facebook.com/carolinelib

