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News and Events from Norfolk Public Library and the Friends of NPL

NPL Recognized for Outstanding Staff Development

On Friday, April 26, 2013, the Virginia Public Library Directors' Association presented the Outstanding Staff Development Award to the Norfolk Public Library (NPL) for its 2nd Annual NPL Staff Training Day.

t's not often that all 193 Norfolk Public Library employees are able to gather as a group in one location for a special occasion, but on Monday, December 10, 2012, they did just that when City Manager Marcus Jones gave permission for all libraries to close their doors for the 2nd Annual Staff Training Day. Coordinated by the NPL Customer Service Committee, the one-day, interactive training event was designed to leave them feeling empowered and recharged.

Training was hosted at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott and included a light breakfast and lunch, a keynote by Bill Barnes, co-author of the popular library comic strip

Unshelved, and three break-out sessions focused on conflict resolution, diversity and teamwork. During lunch, City Manager Marcus Jones stopped by to offer a few words of appreciation. Throughout the day random drawings were held for prizes, and staff enjoyed the rare opportunity to interact with employees from other NPL locations. Employee evaluation results showed that more than 93 percent of staff stated that they can



The one-day staff training event provided a rare opportunity for all 193 NPL employees to connect while gathering as one group.

and will apply the skills learned from the training.

For more information about Norfolk Public Library's customer service training, please call (757) 664-7328 ext. 311.

And the Name is...

Norfolk Public Library's Mascot Update



Norfolk Public Library's highly anticipated mascot will be a superhero called the Reading Ranger! The Friends of the Norfolk Public Library (FNPL) came up with the idea of creating an official mascot for the Library during 2012 to help build excitement for the new Slover Memorial Library, expected to open late 2014. The *Read & Rethink*

Everything Read-A-Thon kicked off in September 2012 for Norfolk's K-12 students. Each student that participated had the opportunity to cast a vote for a mascot character type from a list of nominees. This winter, middle school students participated in the read-a-thon and developed a character type for the mascot. The result: a superhero named the Reading Ranger. Currently, Norfolk's high school students are wrapping up the final phase of the Reading Ranger. The final design for the mascot costume will be chosen early summer. Stay tuned for Reading Ranger details to arrive soon!

Summer Reading Goes Digital

Find your beach reads anytime, anywhere by accessing NPL's new eBook collection!

orfolk Public Library houses books in regular and large print, audio-books, CDs, DVDs, music scores, the Sargeant Memorial Collection, and offers extensive online databases and website links for interest and fun. Now, NPL customers can add one more benefit to this vast list of resources currently available to them—eBooks!

Historically, NPL has adapted to advancements in print and technology by updating its collection to meet the informational, educational and recreational



needs of the public. For Norfolk citizens anxiously awaiting the arrival of eBooks, the wait is over. NPL has added an eBook collection through OverDrive[®], an online lending platform.

Find your summer beach reads by accessing eBooks for free if you live in, own property in, or work in Norfolk. Any resident of Virginia is eligible for a Norfolk Public Library card, but customers who live outside of Norfolk, or don't work in or own property in Norfolk are required to pay an annual fee of \$35 to access eBooks.

eBooks are downloadable to mobile devices and computers 24/7 for NPL cardholders—available anytime, anywhere—all that is needed is an Internet connection, a library card number and PIN. You can sample, browse, download and read popular fiction and nonfiction right at your fingertips even when the Library is closed! There are no overdue fees for eBooks; they expire from your device when the term limit is up without any effort on your part.

Other eBook features include the ability to create a wish list and place books on hold. When eBook titles you have requested become available, you will be notified by email and have three days to borrow them on your device or computer. You can make suggestions for eBooks that you don't find in the OverDrive catalog directly on the website, and you will be notified by email should the Library add those titles to its collection. If borrowing eBooks doesn't meet your needs, you have the option to purchase eBooks at any time without leaving the OverDrive site.

Are you interested in eBooks, but you aren't tech savvy? Don't worry; NPL is offering training classes to the public on how to use eBooks. Visit the Library's website at www.npl.lib.va.us to get information about training classes.

The Friends of the Norfolk Public Library are supporting this endeavor by donating funding for eBooks. The Friends and NPL will continue to examine advancements in publishing and lending in order to meet the needs of its customers. Both are excited to bring you the new eBook collection!

Blyden Branch Library Receives Makeover!

Closed for Renovations May 1 - June 30, 2013.

s part of the City of Norfolk's *Neighbors Building Neighborhoods* initiative, Norfolk Public Library's Blyden Branch is in the process of having major improvements made to its interior and landscaping. The branch closed for renovations on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, and is slated to re-open to the public on Monday, July 1, 2013.

Community leaders, library staff, city officials and architects from Tymoff & Moss have developed a renovation plan for the Blyden Branch that includes new interior paint, lighting, furniture, shelving, computers and carpeting. The KidZone at Blyden will also be refreshed with new seating, book bins and educational toys.

The outside of the library will get new landscaping, an outside Book Return and new entrance doors. Funding for the Blyden Branch renovations was allocated to Norfolk Public Library by Norfolk City Council and City Manager Marcus Jones in response to community requests for updating the building.

All holds for library materials at the Blyden Branch can be picked up from the Jordan-Newby Branch Library, located at 961 Park Avenue, and library materials can be returned to any of our 10 other locations or the Bookmobile. For more information, please call (757) 664-7328.

Crafting for the Greater Good

Little Creek Branch Library's Craft Hope Club.

re you creative with your hands? Do you have a desire to help and inspire others? If so, grab your knitting needles, crochet hooks and sewing needles, and join our monthly crafters club! The Craft Hope Club is spreading love and helping hundreds of

people by crafting handmade gifts for charity causes. The club has made blankets, jackets, washcloths, hats and bibs. Come the first Friday of every month. If your schedule won't permit you to participate every month, it's okay—come as often as you wish! You can even drop off your handmade items for donation. The Craft Hope Club is FREE to join and all levels of experience are welcome.



Come Lend a Creative Hand!

Fridays @ 10:30 AM (June 7: July 5 & August 2) Little Creek Branch ~ (757) 441-1751

For more information, email susan.mayo@norfolk.gov.



Sign up for Summer Reading Program (SRP)!

June 15 - July 27, 2013

Read books, enjoy FREE events, and earn prizes
Folks of all ages can participate!
Babies & Toddlers • School Age • Tweens & Teens • Adults

Register online at www.npl.lib.va.us or at any NPL branch beginning June 15, 2013. Kick off summer right with our SRP events.

Thrilling events are planned ALL summer long, so keep coming back! And remember, library events are always free and open to the public!

SRP Kickoff Carnival

Saturday, June 15 @ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pretlow Anchor Branch ~ (757) 441-1750

Enjoy a bounce house, carnival games, face painting, Sno-Kones, balloon animals, magic, and our touch-a-truck display! *(Family)*

Susan the "Balloon Lady" Digs into Reading!

Monday, June 17 @ 2:00 PM Horace C. Downing Branch ~ (757) 441-1968

Play games and have twisted balloon fun with Susan! (All Ages)

Connie Ralston: Let's Make Some Noise!

Tuesday, June 18 @ 1:30 PM Barron F. Black Branch ~ (757) 441-5806

Bang on your own drum while learning traditional chants and word rhythms! (School Age)

SRP Jam!

Tuesday, June 18 @ 2:00 - 4:00 PM Larchmont Branch ~ (757) 441-5335

Savor cool treats and get creative with crafts. (Family)

Great BIG Faces with Paul Merklein

Wednesday, June 19 @ 1:00 - 3:00 PM Park Place Branch ~ (757) 664-7330

Merklein's show combines art, comedy and BIG faces. Will he draw your face next? (Family)

Ready, Set, READ!

Saturday, June 22 @ 12:00 - 3:00 PM Janaf Branch ~ (757) 441-5660

Grab your SRP materials and we will assist you with online registration! (All Ages)

Summerfest

Saturday, June 22 @ 2:00 - 4:00 PM Van Wyck Branch ~ (757) 441-2844

Drop in for Dora and Diego's Rocking Bounce House, an interactive show by SonShine Entertainment, face painting, balloon animals, and sidewalk art! (All Ages)

The sticky days of summer are coming.

Magic by Rob Westcott

Westcott presents magic, puppetry, storytelling, a live rabbit, and lots of audience participation. (Family)

Tuesday, June 18 @ 2:00 PM

Jordan-Newby Branch \sim (757) 441-2843

Thursday, June 20 @ 2:00 PM

Horace C. Downing Branch ~ (757) 441-1968



Little Creek Branch ~ (757) 441-1751

Wednesday, July 3 @ 10:30 AM

Blyden Branch ~ (757) 441-2852

Thursday, July 25 @ 2:00 PM

Janaf Branch ~ (757) 441-5660

Let's Have a Party with Skye Zentz!

Skye will play her ukulele and guitar, and sing silly songs for a toe-tapping,

hand-clapping day! (All Ages)

Mondays @ 10:30 AM

(June 17 & 24; July 22 & 29) Lafayette Branch ~ (757) 441-2842

Tuesday, June 18 @ 2:00 PM

Little Creek Branch ~ (757) 441-1751

Friday, June 28 @ 2:00 PM

Pretlow Anchor Branch ~ (757) 441-1750

Wednesday, July 17 @ 10:30 AM

Van Wyck Branch ~ (757) 441-2844

The Virginia Living Museum:

other fossils! (Preschool & School Age)

Thursday, June 20 @ 2:00 PM

Lafayette Branch ~ (757) 441-2842

For the Birds!

What do you know about birds?

Meet one or two, and learn about our feathered friends! (Family)

Tuesday, June 25 @ 2:00 PM

Horace C. Downing Branch ~ (757) 441-1968

Thursday, June 27 @ 1:30 PM

Barron F. Black Branch ~ (757) 441-5806

Thursday, June 27 @ 3:00 PM

Van Wyck Branch ~ (757) 441-2844

Tuesday, July 9 @ 1:30 PM

Little Creek Branch \sim (757) 441-1751

Magic with John Kingry

John Kingry has lots of tricks up his sleeves. He can make small animals appear and people levitate! (Family)

Wednesday, July 3 @ 1:30 PM

Barron F. Black Branch ~ (757) 441-5806

Tuesday, July 9 @ 2:00 PM

Larchmont Branch ~ (757) 441-5335

Thursday, July 25 @ 2:00 PM

Van Wyck Branch ~ (757) 441-2844



Dinosaur Discovery Box and Craft

Explore real dinosaur bones, teeth, and



Cool off with these FUN events!

The Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center:

Beach Buddies

Explore marine creatures from our area and see a live horseshoe crab! (Preschool & School Age)



& MARINI SCIENCE CINTER

Wednesday, July 10 @ 10:30 AM

Blyden Branch ~ (757) 441-2852

Puppet Sea Theater

Learn about sea creatures at a dynamic puppet show! (Family)

Wednesday, June 26 @ 10:30 AM

Van Wyck Branch ~ (757) 441-2844

Thursday, August 1 @ 10:30 AM

Horace C. Downing Branch ~ (757) 441-1968

The Virginia Air & Space Center:

The Magic of Electricity

You'll get a charge at this program discovering how powerful and fun electricity can be! *(Family)*



Tuesday, June 25 @ 2:00 PM

Little Creek Branch ~ (757) 441-1751

Thursday, July 11 @ 2:00 PM

Lafayette Branch $\sim (757)$ 441-2842

Wednesday, July 24 @ 1:00 PM

Park Place Branch ~ (757) 664-7330

Space Freeze!

Calling all NASA Jr. Engineers—experience some "out-of-this-world" science fun! (*Preschool & School Age*)

Wednesday, July 24 @ 10:30 AM

Blyden Branch $\sim (757) \, 441-2852$

Bat World of Hampton Roads

Come for an educational program featuring live fruit bats. (Family)

Tuesday, June 25 @ 2:00 PM

Pretlow Anchor Branch ~ (757) 441-1750

Saturday, July 6 @ 11:00 AM

Horace C. Downing Branch ~ (757) 441-1968

Thursday, July 11 @ 1:30 PM

Barron F. Black Branch ~ (757) 441-5806



Nauticus:

Cool Science

Budding scientists can literally take "matters" into their own hands with liquid nitrogen and combustion experiments! (School Age & Teens)



Monday, July 22 @ 2:00 PM

Horace C. Downing Branch \sim (757) 441-1968

There's more!

For a complete listing of summer events, go to www.npl.lib.va.us.

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o you casually flip through magazines while waiting in line at the grocery store? Now you can read full digital copies of your favorite magazines in entertainment, news, fashion, technology, travel and more for free online with your library card! Registered NPL cardholders can download unlimited copies of popular magazines to a computer desktop,



iPhone, iPad, or Android device through the Zinio® database link on our website at www.npl.lib.va.us. The digital copy is displayed in the same format as the print magazine, but with the addition of bonus features like video, audio, and hyperlinks. These magazines are always available, never expire, and can be stored indefinitely!



Congratulations to the 2013 Employees of the Year: Liz Edwards (left) and Anita Lytes, who have worked at NPL for more than 20 years!

NPL Staff Association Recognizes Exemplary Employees

n Wednesday, April 24, the NPL Staff Association proudly presented Anita Lytes and Liz Edwards with Employee of the Year Awards. Both women have worked at NPL for more than 20 years, and were praised by their nominators for their hard work and dedication to the Library. Each received a certificate and a check for \$250.00!

You've been Busted... Caught Caring that is!



February 2013: **Lisa Munson**, Youth Associate (Barron F. Black Branch Library)

Congratulations to the recipients of Norfolk Public Library's Caught Caring Award, Lisa Munson and Xavier Ferebee! Both employees were caught by staff and customers displaying excellent customer service and going above and beyond to assist others.

Let us know how we're doing and nominate a library employee for the Caught Caring Award! Look for comment boxes with cards in each

NPL location and give us your suggestions, comments, positive feedback or complaints. All comment cards are reviewed and the Caught Caring Award is granted to one employee through a random monthly drawing of staff who received positive feedback.

March 2013: Xavier Ferebee, Computer Aide (Park Place Branch Library)



The 2014 Norfolk Historical Calendar



The 7th annual Norfolk Historical Calendar will be for sale this summer online and at all NPL branches for only \$10!

The 2014 calendar will feature historical photographs that capture glimpses into Norfolk's rich and exciting past. The NPL Foundation will donate the profits from the sales of the calendar to the Slover Library Foundation for the benefit of the Sargeant Memorial Collection. For more information, please call Lori Sharp at (757) 664-7328 ext. 340.

The 2014 Norfolk Historical Calendar is sponsored by the Norfolk Public Library Foundation in partnership with the Norfolk Historical Society, Dominion Capital Partners, and the Law Firm of Decker, Cardon, Thomas, Weintraub & Neskis, PC.

Kudos to the NPL Volunteers of the Month



February 2013: Sara Twine

Sara Twine is from Chesapeake, Virginia, and is retired from the Chesapeake Public School system. She volunteers at the Jordan-Newby Branch Library shelving fiction books, cleaning toys and assisting patrons. Her passion for volunteering is due to her love of the Library and what it adds to the community, and also, a strong desire to be a part of the NPL family. Library staff member Melissa Bristol states, "We are so glad we have a wonderful volunteer who admires the Library!" In her free time, Twine enjoys sewing, donating quality movies to the Jordan-Newby Branch, and reading.

March 2013: Jake Dassel

Jake Dassel is 17 years old and while relatively new at the Lafayette Branch Library, he has made a big impression on the staff and patrons with his incredible work ethic and winning attitude. Dassel decided to volunteer because he is an avid reader and the library is close to home. In addition to cleaning toys and shelving for the branch, he has helped weed the large print and audio book collections, and reorganized the adult fiction collection. A homeschooled senior in high school, Dassel is looking forward to college next year. He has applied to Old Dominion University and Virginia Wesleyan College and plans to major in computer engineering. He is an outdoorsman who also enjoys computer programming, computer games and playing guitar.



April 2013: Aaron Francis

Aaron Francis has been volunteering at the Mary D. Pretlow Anchor Branch Library for the last four months. His favorite volunteer task is shelving books. A top honor student at Northside Middle School, he maintains an "A" average and is a member of the Junior National Honor Society. Pretlow Branch staff and patrons describe Francis as being reliable and very pleasant with a positive attitude, and they enjoy his presence around the building. In his spare time, Francis loves to watch TV. Math is his favorite subject in school, and he says there is one food he can't live without—crab legs!

Thank YOU, Sara, Jake and Aaron for all you do for NPL!

We appreciate your dedication to the Library's volunteer program.

Volunteers of the Month receive a \$10.00 gift card to Barnes and Noble and a Certificate of Appreciation. They are also featured on the NPL Volunteer website at www.npl.lib.va.us/volunteers.

Prevent Summer Reading Slide at Tales to Tails <



Parents, you can help prevent summer reading slide. Bring your kids to Tales to Tails, a program that encourages children to practice their reading skills by sharing stories with book-loving therapy dogs. **(School Age)**

1st Saturdays @ 2:00 PM

(June 1; July 6 & August 3) Barron F. Black Branch ~ (757) 441-5806

2nd Sundays @ 1:00 PM

(June 9; July 14 & August 11) Pretlow Anchor Branch ~ (757) 441-1750

Last Book Read: *Charlie the Ranch Dog*by Ree Drummond



Library Closings

Independence Day Thursday, July 4

Blyden Branch Library is closed for renovations May 1 - June 30, 2013

Lafayette Branch Library is closed for renovations June 27 & 28, 2013



www.npl.lib.va.us • 664-READ

COMING LATE 2014!

Slover Memorial Library

Barron F. Black Branch Library 6700 East Tanners Creek Dr.

6700 East Tanners Creek Dr. 441-5806

Blyden Branch Library

879 East Princess Anne Rd. 441-2852

Horace C. Downing
Branch Library

555 East Liberty St. 441-1968

Janaf Branch Library 124 Janaf Shopping Ctr. 441-5660

> Jordan-Newby Branch Library 961 Park Ave. 441-2843

Lafayette Branch Library 1610 Cromwell Dr.

441-2842

Larchmont Branch Library 6525 Hampton Blvd. 441-5335

Little Creek Branch Library

7853 Tarpon Pl. 441-1751

Mary D. Pretlow Anchor Branch Library

111 W. Ocean View Ave. 441-1750

Park Place Branch Library

620 W. 29th St. 664-7330

Van Wyck Branch Library 1368 DeBree Ave.

441-2844 **The Bookmobile**858-2044

Friends of the Norfolk Public Library

P.O. Box 3234 Norfolk, Virginia 23514

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Join the Friends of the Norfolk Public Library today.

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E-mail:_______ I would be interested in volunteering. 🔲

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