How and why to team up with your local librarian

Noah Lenstra lenstra@uncg.edu @NoahLenstra Sign up for our free monthly newsletter at LetsMoveLibraries.org/Newsletter





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Design courtesy Tammy Gruer



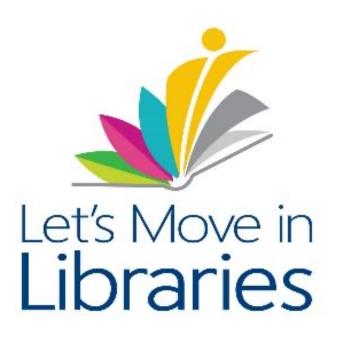
libraries



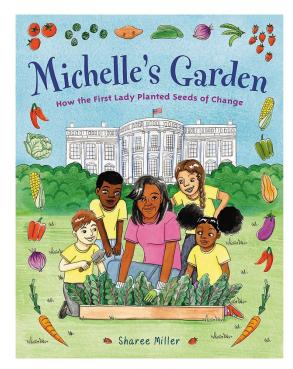
Let's Move in Libraries!

MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

LetsMoveInLibraries.org



Welcome to the March 2021 edition of the Let's Move in Libraries newsletter. So far, 2021 has been exciting and overwhelming! This month's newsletter is shorter than usual. We plan to be back with more original content in future months! This month's featured image comes from the recently released book "Michelle's Garden: How the First Lady Planted Seeds of Change." Inspired by former U.S. First Lady's vision – the Let's Move campaign (2010-2016) that led to Let's Move in Libraries – this book tells the story of Obama's effort to "grow the largest kitchen garden ever at the White House.



This wouldn't be easy, since she'd never gardened before: Where should she start? What tools did she need? What would she plant? Everyone needs help when they're learning something for the first time, even the first lady of the United States. So she gathered the help of local students, the White House staff, and even President Barack Obama. Together, they wouldn't just grow a garden —they would inspire a nation!"

Library partnerships **INCREASE** our capacity to support literacy and lifelong learning by a) building our audience, b) building engagement, c) building community goodwill and funding



Libraries are about books

Libraries are about community

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"If I don't walk, it's really not a great day" - Seattle Public Library's Nancy Pearl

"Last year, Pearl started combining her two greatest pleasures — reading and walking."



HERALDNET.COM

America's action figure librarian walks a good book for exercise | HeraldNet.com



Connolly Branch of the Boston Public Library October 30 · 🚱

Snow can't stop the Story Walk! The Story Walk will stay up until Wednesday, November 4. Stop by the branch during BPL to Go hours for an activity kit.

¡La nieve no puede detener el Story Walk! El Story Walk permanecerá activo hasta el miércoles 4 de noviembre. Pase por la biblioteca durante las horas de BPL to Go para obtener un kit de actividades.

See Translation





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...

Librarians = Trusted Models

"[When] the book bike comes, people are reminded that we have a bike trail system that allows the library to come see us using their bike.

Having a librarian ride their book bikes: They're wearing their bicycling gear - really helps remind the public that everybody can be healthy" Head of Main Street Organization





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Actionable steps

Five Ways Parks & Recreation and Public Libraries can (and should!) Collaborate

- 1. Cross-Promotion of Programming
- 2. StoryWalk and storytime in the park
- 3. Summer meals and food literacy
- 4. Taster classes at the library
- 5. Circulating rec equipment and rec center passes

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WHAT IS A LIBRARY?

buildings with books

1%

the social and cultural infrastructure of a community

99%

Albany Public Library

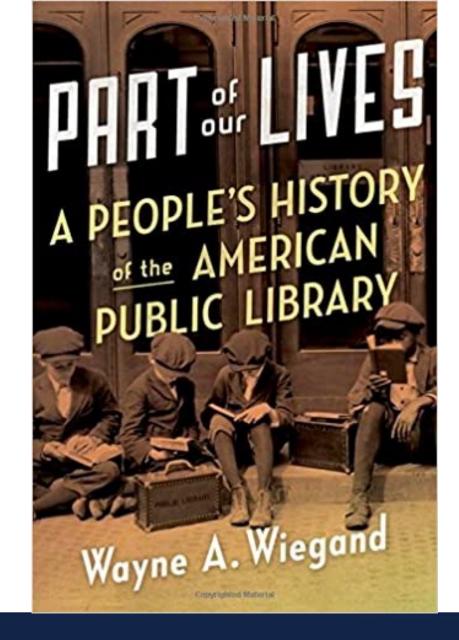
www.albanypubliclibrary.org



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Americans love (and fund) libraries for three reasons: 1. Transformative potential of reading 2. Useful nature of information

3. Community building capacity of public space





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More voters today say it's important for the library to be a community hub.

	2010	2000
 Activities, entertainment not found elsewhere 	48%	38%
 Be a place for people to gather and socialize 	45%	36%
 Support civic discourse and community building 	47%	

American Library Association. (2018). *From awareness to funding: Voter perceptions and support of public libraries in 2018*. <u>https://bit.ly/2RKJSU4</u>



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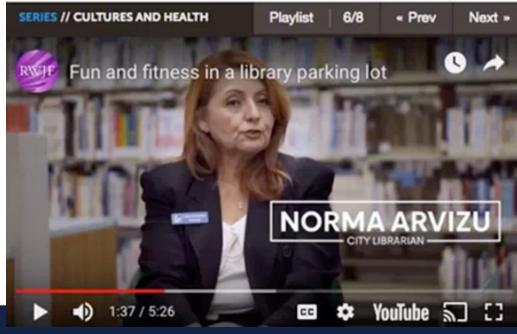
2018

2008



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. (2017). Achieving Health Equity: Fun and Fitness in a library parking lot. https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/features/achieving-health-equity.html

Embracing the SHARED USE of the library





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Onslow County Public Library @OnslowCoLibrary

The Main/Jacksonville Library is excited to introduce our Community Wellness Garden! Join us as we learn more about wellness, nutrition, and growing your own food.

Interested in volunteering? Sign up here: onslowcountync.gov/FormCenter/Lib...



^{9:11} AM · Aug 20, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone



What a great day for gardening! Jessica and her son Patrick came to the Walkertown Branch library today to harvest sweet potatoes from their plot and to plant collards for the Fall. They enjoy being part of the Library Community Garden. Library is for growing!



2:13 PM · Oct 7, 2020 · Twitter Web App



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CURB HUNGER

Free weekly food bags for individuals and families Contact Library Pick Up services at 715-839-5066 or Community Resource Services at 715-839-5061 or libbyr@eauclaire.lib.wi.us to schedule a food pick up



Loudon Public Library to host 'Chalk the Walk' event

The event celebrates the library's summer reading program.



Hays Public Library @HaysPubLibrary · Mar 26

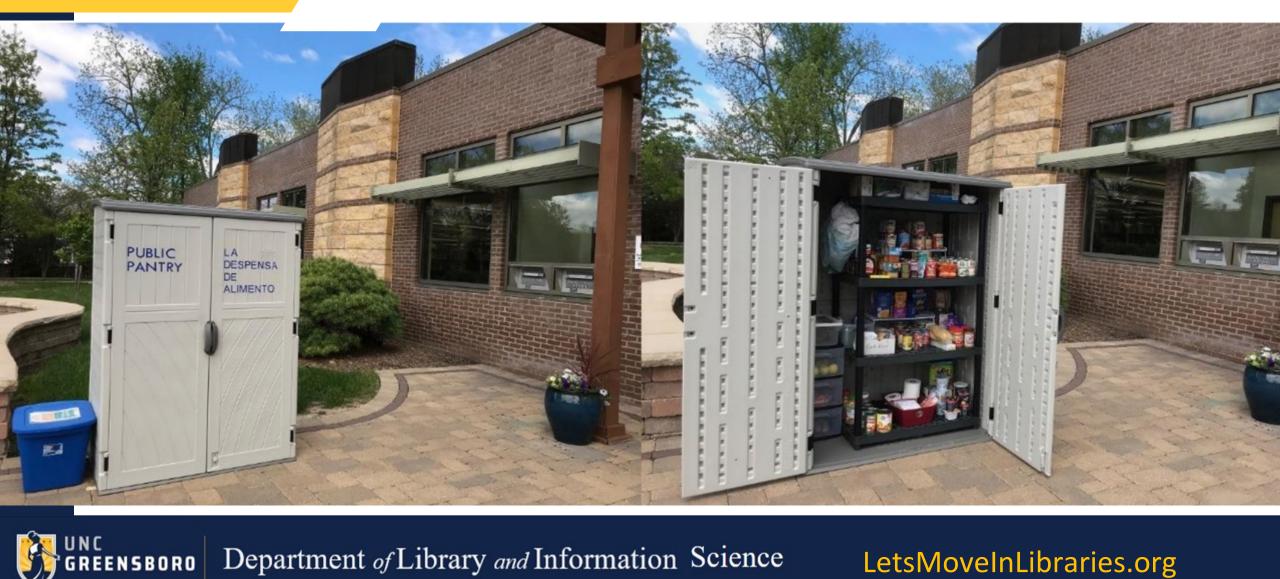
Join the Chalk Challenge! Participants can create an uplifting image or write a positive message on their sidewalk, snap a photo, post it, and nominate two friends. Stay safe and share some creativity and positivity in our community! #HPLchalkchallenge





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Come help the Friends of the Library beautify the grounds

By Shelby Harrell sharrell@themountaineer.com Sep 16, 2020 🔍 0

Re-imaging our libraries as places made **by** our communities!!



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Shaler Scout hopes to make Eagle with food pantry for hometown library

MICHAEL DIVITTORIO 🗹 🗹 | Wednesday, September 2, 2020 11:22 p.m.

in the conversation (0)





Eagle Scout hopeful Xander Hill, 16, works on the food pantry project with his great uncle, Eddie Idzakovich. Xander said the pantry cost about \$300 to complete. Family and friends donated \$500 to the Shaler North Hills Library to keep it stocked.



1. Cross-Promotion



These socially distant and virtual programs brought to you by <u>Creative Greensboro</u>, <u>Public Libraries</u>, the <u>Greensboro</u> <u>History Museum</u>, and <u>Parks and Recreation</u>.

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1. Cross-Promotion

SILVER STREAMING

Tune in to WCPL and WCPR Facebook pages every Tuesday and Thursday for free LIVE classes!

Tuesday @ 11:00 AM: Fitness Thursday @ 11:00 AM: Knowledge







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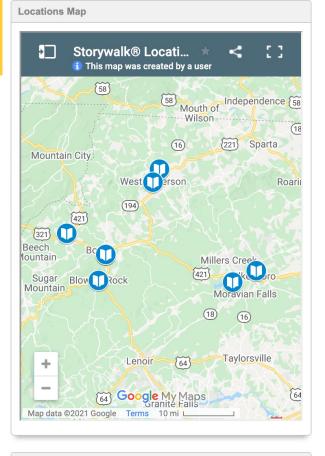
2. StoryWalk





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2. StoryWalk



Find a StoryWalk®

Home

Early Literacy



Old Cove Creek Walking Path

Create-It-Yourself



West Jefferson Park



<image>

The Tot Lot



Smoot Park



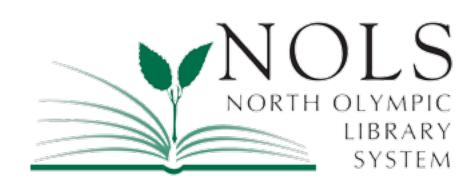
Permanent Locations

Ashe County Park 527 Ashe Park Road Jefferson, NC 28640

Blowing Rock Memorial Park 1036 Main Street Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Fish Dam Creek Park Kerr Scott Dam & Reservoir 499 Reservoir Road Wilkesboro, NC 28697

For adults too...



Haiku Journey by Kimberly Blaeser

the tips of each pine the spikes of telephone poles hold gathering crows

may's errant mustard spreads wild across paved road look both ways

roadside treble cleft feeding gopher, paws to mouth cheeks puffed with music yesterday's spring wind ruffling the grey tips of fur rabbit dandelion



The Poetry Walk program is made possible through the generous support of the Port Angeles Friends of the Library. For more information about the program, other Poetry Walk locations, or information about the poems, visit www.nols.org.



3. Summer meals & food literacy



Feeding the Mind Elevating the Public Library's Role in Supporting Summer Food

WAKE

anterger 🙂 🙂 😁 😁

wakegov.com

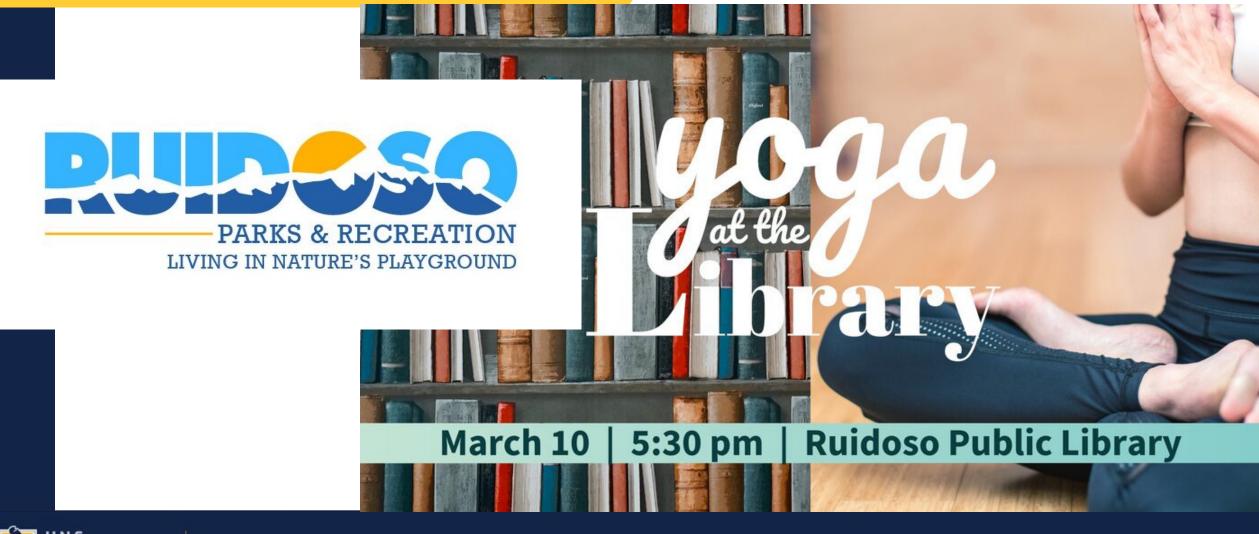
3. Summer meals & food literacy





UNC Greensbord P

4. Taster classes at the library



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5. Circulating equipment and passes





Nature Backpacks



Check me out!

Backpacks come with field guides, dip nets, magnifiers and a parking pass to get the family into a Virginia State Park at no cost. Each backpack checks out for two weeks.





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HEAL (Healthy Eating and Active Living) at the Library via Co-Developed Programming



ENSBORO

- The research will answer: "How, why, and with what impacts do public libraries collaborate with others to co-develop programming around healthy eating and active living?"
- This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, RE-246336-OLS-20

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Findings

Partner evolution in thinking about public libraries

- Stage 1: Library => Book Repository
- Stage 2: Library => Resource (Always there, people turn to it, stable, trusted)
- Stage 3: Library => Space to use (for food distribution, programs, coalitions meetings, etc.)
- Stage 4: Library => Partner
 (We work together to figure out what to do)

What's the problem?

- Too many of us are here –
 "Stage 1: Library => Book Repository"
- Not enough of us are here –
 "Stage 4: Library => Partner"
- When's the last time you've talked with your local library about your shared priorities and interests?

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Final thoughts

Team up: Collective Impact!!

Start small

Dream big

Increase access FOR ALL!



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Learn more

Can Parks Leverage Libraries?

March 18, 2021, Department, by Noah Lenstra, Ph.D., MLIS, and Teresa L. Penbrooke, Ph.D., CPRE

Health and Wellness





For an enhanced digital experience, read this story in the ezine.

How park and recreation agencies can enhance services by working smarter with libraries

"Parks and libraries and learning: There are so many overlaps and compatibilities. ...When we work together, we get a greater good." — James (Jim) E. Ziemnik, director of Lorain County (Ohio) Metro Parks

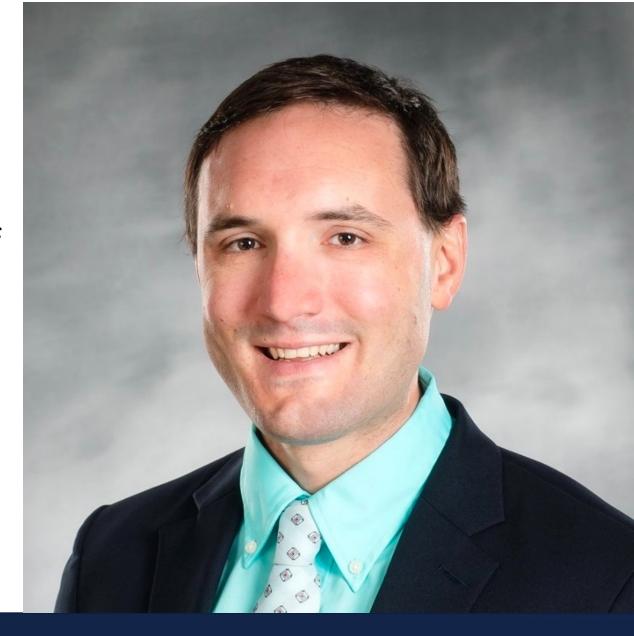
When Anastasia Diamond-Ortiz, CEO and director of the Lorain Public Library, came to the county in 2016, one of the first things she did was meet with Metro Parks Assistant Director Jennifer Bracken. The two talked about active transportation.

Thank you!

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http://letsmovelibraries.org/





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