

LIBRARY CONNECTIONS

Ruby B. Archie Public Library News, Programs, and Events



January - February 2024

NEW YEAR, NEW START

JANUARY 3 - 31

The Ruby B. Archie Public Library would like to offer its patrons a fresh start going into the New Year. From January 1st through the 31st, the library will be accepting donations for our New Year, New Start amnesty program.

This year, we will be accepting toiletries on behalf of Social Services and youth in Foster Care. **For every approved toiletry item donated, the library will waive \$2 in fines up to \$50 per library account.** The library will only accept donations that are new, undamaged and unopened.

Items can be donated to the Ruby B. Archie Public Library at 511 Patton Street during regular business hours. A full list of acceptable donations may be found on our website or social media pages.

The library views New Year, New Start as not only an opportunity to serve the community but to welcome our patrons back to the library in 2023!

Help by donating these items:

- ✓ Shampoo
- ✓ Conditioner
- ✓ Body Wash
- ✓ Bar Soap
- ✓ Deodorant
- ✓ Baby Wipes
- ✓ Toothbrush
- ✓ Toothpaste
- ✓ Mouthwash

2024 Reading Challenge

Sometimes knowing what to read is the hardest part of setting reading goals. We thought we would help with this 12-month prompt. Be sure to let us know how it is going. Post your selections and tag us @readdanvilleva on social media. As always, stop by the front desk and we can help you find titles for each month!

JANUARY Start off the year by reading a 2023 debut.

FEBRUARY Read a book written by a Black author.

MARCH Read a book written by a female author.

APRIL Read a collection of poetry.

MAY Read a graphic novel.

JUNE Read an adventure book.

JULY Explore the world. Read a book set in another country.

AUGUST Read a book set at the beach or at sea.

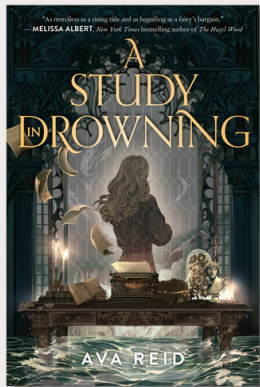
SEPTEMBER Read a book written by a Hispanic author.

OCTOBER Read a book with a supernatural element or theme.

NOVEMBER Read a book written by an Indigenous author.

DECEMBER Finish the year by reading an award-winning book.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

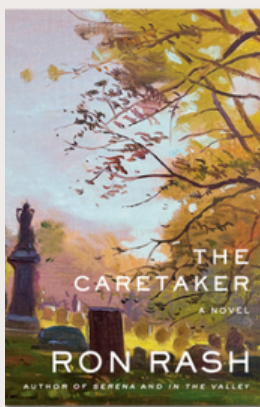


Effy has nightmares that haunt her even in her waking hours. Taking her little pink pills, she tries to fight the visions that no one believes could be a real creature lurking in the shadows, waiting. She goes to college to study architecture, though she would rather be taking the literature courses that are for men only. Determined to make

something of herself, as well as get the chance to visit her favorite author's home, Effy applies to work on an architecture project for the late author's son. When she is accepted, she sets off without realizing just what darkness she is about to tumble into.

I liked the gothic vibes this book gave off, as well as the reluctant romance. Really fun and engrossing read, I definitely recommend it!

Elise Eanes, Senior Administrative Specialist



Some authors automatically go on my "to be read" list as soon as I read that they have written a new book. Ron Rash, the North Carolina author of *Serena* (made into a movie starring Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper) is one of those. Rash's latest, *The Caretaker*, is set in Blowing Rock, NC, in 1951. Blackburn Grant is the caretaker for the local cemetery. Blackburn's only

friend, Jacob Lampton, marries Naomi despite strong disapproval from his parents. Jacob is then drafted into the Korean War and asks Blackburn to care for a pregnant Naomi during his absence. When Jacob is injured, his parents decide to deceive Blackburn, Jacob and Naomi in an attempt to have Jacob live the life they envision for him.

Written in Rash's poignant, descriptive prose, *The Caretaker* made me pause and reread sentences just to savor their meaning. The ending made me cheer!

Jessica Austin, Technical Services Librarian

WELCOME RACHEL TIMM

MEET OUR NEW ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR, RACHEL TIMM!



Rachel comes to us with nearly 15 years of library experience and she is looking forward to connecting our library patrons and community members with the materials, services, and programs they need both inside and outside the library.

Originally from California, she has called Danville home since 2010 and is thrilled to be part of the exciting growth and opportunities the City of Danville is bringing to the region. Rachel is delighted to offer her voice and experience to Ruby B. Archie Public Library and to add to the already vibrant array of programs, events, and collections being offered.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



During the month of February, we wish to honor the unique Black History of our region, take time to celebrate our local Heroes, and amplify current Black Voices throughout our community and library collections. Visit the library all month long to learn more about our distinctive history and to engage with compelling displays and exhibits.

Discover events across the library to celebrate Black History Month through recommended reading, trivia, book and film discussions, and a wide array of digital resources available to anyone with a library card!

Computers for Beginners

Flustered by technology? Let's start with the basics. Get an introduction to the basic functions of a personal computer, how to navigate the internet, and how to send and receive email. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Computer Lab **Thursdays, Jan. 18 and Feb. 15,**
11 a.m. to 12 p.m. **No fee**

Get More from Google

Do you use Gmail? Join us to learn about the many other things you can do with the free apps included in your Google account. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Computer Lab **Wednesdays, Jan. 17 and Feb. 21**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

Dig Into Your Device

Finally ready to figure out your iPad or Kindle? Not sure where to start? Join us for a brief introduction to several key features for mobile computing devices. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Wednesdays, Feb. 7 and April 10**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

Customized Computer Session

Whether you are struggling with technology or want to become more acquainted with computers, we can help. Schedule a session to receive one-on-one assistance with library resources, smartphones, email, apps, and minor technology issues. Sessions will be scheduled Monday through Friday, subject to availability. Please allow 48 hours advance notice. Call (434) 799-5195.

By appointment. **No fee**

Legal Aid Workshops

Representatives from Virginia Legal Aid Society will present a short workshop with questions and answers to follow. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **No fee**
• **Thursdays, Jan. 4 and Feb. 1** **5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
• **Tuesdays, Jan. 9 and Feb. 13** **1 p.m. to 2 p.m.**
 ◦ **January - How to file for divorce**
 ◦ **February - Tenant rights and breaking a lease**

The Write Stuff – Writers Group

If you love writing, join us for inspiration, encouragement, and feedback. Bring what you are working on to share with the group or just come to discuss your craft. All genres and writing styles are welcome. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Tuesdays, Jan. 9, 23, and Feb. 6, 20**
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

Adult Arts and Crafts

Unwind from your day with a relaxing arts and crafts project. Let your creativity shine to create a cute craft or inspiring art piece. Bring friends and meet new ones. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **5 p.m. to 6 p.m.** **No fee**
• **Thursday, January 11**
 ◦ **Twig Owl**
• **Tuesday, January 30**
 ◦ **Painted Bottle**
• **Thursday, February 22**
 ◦ **Hot Glue Art on Canvas**

“Real to Reel” Film Series

Enjoy a movie viewing of popular documentaries and biopics with a discussion after the film. Share your thoughts on these influential moments and learn more about the history behind these powerful films. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Saturdays**
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. **No fee**
• **January 13 - *Selma* (2014)**
• **February 10 - *Marshall* (2017)**
• **April 6 - *Jane* (2017)**

Pop Culture Geek Out Hour

So much media; so little time. Join us to talk about the geeky things we love the most from time travel, to cryptids, and fandoms beyond. We will fill up on recommendations from books, movies, podcasts, and more to keep you occupied all month. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Tuesdays, Jan. 16 and Feb. 13**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Just Write

Flex your creative writing muscles and exercise your imagination. Bring your journal, laptop, or other device and join in on writing activities, prompts, and exercises. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursdays, Jan. 18 and Feb. 15**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

Unrequired Reading – Classics Book Club

We all learned about the classics in high school. Let's read them again just for fun! Join our discussion for a fresh perspective on these enduring tales. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Mondays**
6 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**

- **January 29**
 - *Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
- **February 26**
 - *Passing* by Nella Larsen

Page and Screen

Is the book always better? Let's find out together. Share your thoughts on the strengths of each version as we look at popular movie adaptations of the books we love. This is a two-part program starting with a book discussion at Ballou Recreation Center, followed by a movie viewing at Ruby B. Archie Public Library. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195 or (434) 799-5216.

Tuesdays **No fee**

- **January 16** **11 a.m. to 12 p.m.** **Ballou Recreation**
 - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey
- **January 23** **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** **Library Auditorium**
 - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (1975 Movie)

De-Stress Night

Join us for an evening of relaxed fun to unwind. Enjoy coloring and candle-making. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Monday, January 22**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

VA-NC Piedmont Genealogical Society Presents

Learn helpful tips and hear interesting stories related to genealogy topics with our guest speaker. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursday, Feb. 1**
2 p.m. to 3 p.m. **No fee**

- Jarred Marlowe, *The Final Days of the Civil War*

Genealogy 101

Learn how to get started researching and documenting your family history. We will discuss resources for research, and other tips and tricks. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursday, February 8**
2 p.m. to 3 p.m. **No fee**

Leap Day Vision Boards

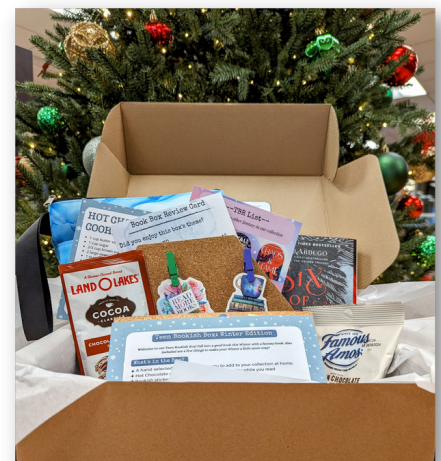
Use the art of collage to envision your hopes, dreams, and predictions for the coming four years. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursday, February 29**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**

Teen Bookish Box: Winter Edition

Are you looking for something new to read? Introducing the "Bookish Box," our very own library seasonal subscription box! A subscription box is a fun packaged experience. Each box comes with a book you get to keep as well as a few fun bookish surprises that fit that box's theme. Best of all? It's totally free! There is no charge for the boxes, but registration is required, and boxes are limited. Only one bookish box per family. The library currently offers two subscription boxes options: Middle Grade (Grades 5-8) or Young Adult (Grades 9-12). Our winter box will include a fantasy book and will be available January 2. Call (434) 799-5195.

**Please note: Preference will be given to first time subscribers.*



PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

TO REGISTER FOR ANY LIBRARY PROGRAM, CALL 434-799-5195

Overbooked: Teen Book Club

Meet new friends and discuss “Dragon Hoops” by Gene Luen Yang! Be sure to read the book ahead of time to get the most out of the program! A free copy of the book will be given out to the first newcomer to register a month before the meeting. Snacks provided. Grades 9-12. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesday, January 3**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Youth Dungeons & Dragons

Solve puzzles, defeat the monsters, and discover treasure along the way. All experience levels are welcome. This is a 5th edition game. First time participants receive a free set of dice. Snacks are provided. Saturday sessions include lunch. Grades 6-12. Space is limited. Register by the Monday before the program. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **No fee**

- **Mondays, Jan. 8 and Feb. 5**
 - **4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
- **Saturdays, Jan. 27 and Feb. 24**
 - **10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Tween Craft Night

Join us for a night of crafts, music, and snacks. Bring your friends and make new ones. Ages 12-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesdays**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**

- **January 10 - Junk Journaling**
- **February 14 - Jewelry Making 101**

Escape Room: The Lost Tomb

Follow the clues. Solve the mystery. See if you have what it takes to get out before the time runs out! Space is limited. Ages 8 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Activity Room **No fee**

- **Wednesday, January 17**
 - **4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.**
- **Thursday, January 18**
 - **4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

Teen Advisory Board

The Teen Advisory Board is a way for teens to have a voice at the library and help others in their community. TAB goals include promoting library services, helping library staff develop teen programs and strong young adult book collections, and creating youth-led service projects. Grades 6-12. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Fridays, Jan. 26 and Feb. 23**
4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Teen Takeover

After-hours at the library is for teens-only! Play video games with friends, make slime, have nerf battles, eat pizza, and more. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Second Floor **Fridays, Jan. 26 and Feb. 23**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**



Knitters Unravelled

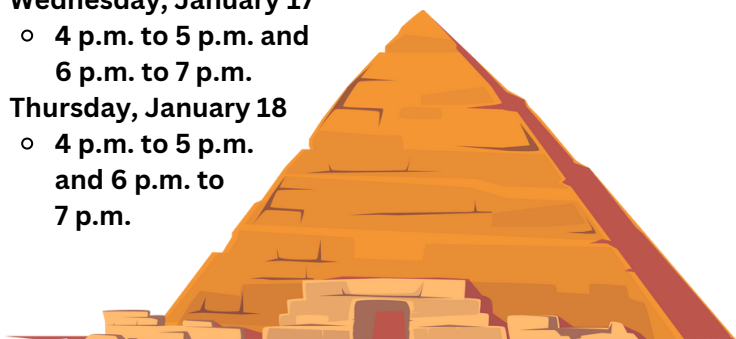
Learn beginner knitting techniques from an expert. Knitters will need to bring a pair of knitting needles and are welcome to bring their own yarn as well. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Mondays, Jan. 29 and Feb. 26**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

Storytellers: Creative Writing 101

Are you a tween who is creative and loves to write? Explore and foster your creative voice through writing prompts and exercises. Covering short stories, poetry, prose, non-fiction, and more, writers will be able to share their work and collaborate with others in a relaxed workshop environment. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Tuesday, February 6**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**



Little Explorers Storytime

Children and their caregivers are invited to join us for songs, stories, and activities that promote language development and pre-literacy skills. Recommended for ages 2-5. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Tuesdays, Jan. 2 - Feb. 20**
11 a.m. to 12 p.m. **No fee**

Countdown to Noon

Ring in the year 2024 with a party for little ones and their families. We'll dance, snack, and craft our way through a celebration of the new year. Ages 10 and under. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Friday, January 5**
11 a.m. to 12 p.m. **No fee**

LEGO Brick Engineers

Make your own LEGO brick creation to meet this month's creative challenge. Bricks provided; imagination required. All LEGO models will be displayed in the children's department. Ages 5-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Mondays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Little Learning Lab

Explore, create, and learn through interactive STEAM based activities that will engage the mind and body as your child builds their fine motor skills and creativity while exploring scientific concepts. Ages 2-7. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

- **January 11**
 - **Tech Try It**
- **February 8**
 - **Genealogy 101: Family Trees & Show and Tell Storytime**



Book Babies

Music and rhymes, stories, and fingerplays in a lap sit program for babies and their caregivers. Recommended for children 0-18 months. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Activity Room **Fridays, Jan. 12 and Feb. 9**
10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. **No fee**

Code Challengers

Learn how to make your own computer games, mobile apps, and more! Join us to experience hands-on coding and robotics. No experience required: just curiosity and creativity! Ages 8-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesdays, Jan. 24 and Feb. 28**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

Random Fandom

Embrace your inner geek at the library in a series of programs celebrating the awesomeness of Pokémon, Minecraft, Studio Ghibli, and more! Each month we will highlight a new fandom for you to create around, explore, and geek out about. Gather your friends and family and embark on this epic quest. Ages 7-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

- **January 25**
 - **Minecraft Mania**
- **February 22**
 - **Studio Ghibli**

Maker Mondays

Put your maker caps on to build, explore, tinker, and create fun hands-on projects. Each session will have different activities to try and problems to solve. Ages 7-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Mondays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

- **January 29**
 - **DIY Bouncy Balls**
- **February 26**
 - **Love Bugs**

Tree House Tuesday

If you are an adventurer like Jack and Annie from the Magic Tree House series, this program is for you! Learn about ninjas and twisters, perform experiments, and make crafts in this literary STEAM program. Ages 5-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Tuesdays, Jan. 30 and March 26**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

Mad Scientists

Put your goggles and lab coats on and explore components of STEAM through hands-on demonstrations, experiments, and crafts. Ages 8-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

- **February 1**
 - **Human Body**

Coding with Cubetto

Tell a story and learn the basics of programming with Cubetto, a friendly wooden robot. Children will learn sequencing, prediction and other coding concepts through hands-on play and screen-free adventures. Ages 3-6. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Activity Room **Mondays**

- **February 12**
 - **4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.**
- **March 11**
 - **4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

March Through the Stacks

Join the march to learn about important historical figures in fun and engaging hands-on experiments and activities. All ages welcome. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Second Floor **Mondays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

- **February 12**
 - **Black History Month**
- **March 11**
 - **Women's History Month**

Life Size Oregon Trail

Do you have what it takes to survive the long journey to the Wild West? Face sickness, river crossings, mountain climbs, and other dangers spread throughout the entire library with your fellow settlers in this board game-style, life size experience. Snacks provided. Ages 7-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Library **Friday, February 16**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**

Barnyard Friends

We are putting on a grand show! Create your own farm animal hand puppet and barnyard theater to take home and present some farm-tastic performances. Ages 2-7. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

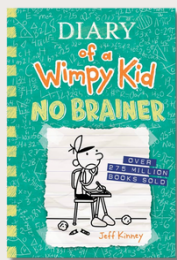
Maker Space **Thursday, February 29**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

LOOKING BACK

Here are the top circulated books published in 2023 in the children and teen collections:



Picture Books



Juvenile Fiction



Juvenile Graphics



Young Adult Fiction





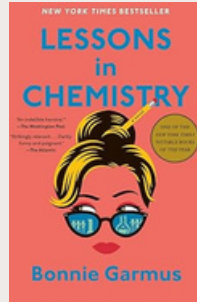
Let's keep in touch.

Scan the QR code to sign up for the digital version of this newsletter!

Ruby B. Archie Public Library
511 Patton Street · Danville

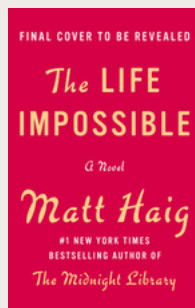
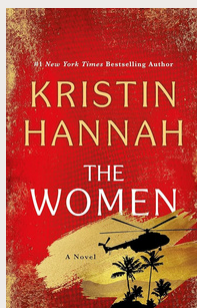
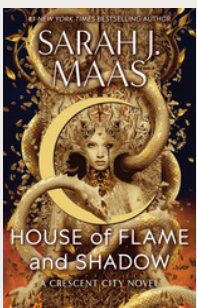
Phone - 434-799-5195
www.readdanvilleva.org

LOOKING BACK



In 2023, our top circulated book was ***It Starts With Us* by Colleen Hoover** with **26 checkouts**. The sequel to *It Ends With Us* (another one of our most checked out titles this year), this is a contemporary romance novel that continues the story of Lily Bloom and Atlas Corrigan. The story delves into complex themes of love, resilience, and self-discovery. Come check out some of the top titles of 2023 at the library today!

LOOKING FORWARD



Looking to add some new authors to your 2024 Reading Challenge? Here are a few of the most anticipated titles coming to fiction in the new year, reach out and let us know which books you're adding to your 2024 TBR!

Hours

Monday - Thursday	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Upcoming Closings

Monday, January 1 the Library will be closed in observance of New Years Day.

Monday, January 15 the Library will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 19 the Library will be closed in observance of President's Day.

Did you know?

In 2023, we checked out **53,491 titles** across all collections!

See which collections were most popular throughout the year below.

