

YOUTH SERVICES NOTES

Week of August 3, 2015

No. 215

Mathews Memorial Library

Summer Program: “Science Matters”

The Mathews Memorial Library embarked on an ambitious month-long summer project of daily programs under the umbrella of “**Science Matters.**” Each Tuesday during July featured a **lemonade lecture by visiting scientists.** The speakers included a physicist, an astronomer, computer scientist and a mathematician. Pictured is **Jerry Ligon**, the



seventh grade science teacher here in Mathews who led a spellbinding discussion on nautical food chains. You can easily see he was dressed for the part.

The program has attracted more than 60 children each day, ranging in age for 6 to 14. Each week culminated in a “**Discovery Day**” **field trip** to such places as the **Jefferson Lab** in Newport News, The **Science Museum of Virginia** and **Virginia Living Museum.** We also visited the **Virginia Museum of Architecture** in Richmond to explore how numbers are an integral part of architecture. Thursdays were reserved for hands-on activities related to the subject of the week. Each child kept a notebook and recorded what they learned and observed, both during the lectures and on the trips.

Submitted by Bette Dillehay. 

From POWHATAN TODAY newspaper

“Library Programs Logging Hours of Summer Fun”

By Laura McFarland, News Editor

Powhatan County Public Library has been hopping all summer with programs, activities and increased visits from families, and it’s not over yet.

The sound of excited children is one of the most common in the summer months at the library as parents bring in their offspring to keep them busy and reading between school years, **Peggy Martin, director,** said.

To meet that need, the library has been offering a full schedule of programs designed to emphasize imagination, creativity, hands-on learning and the importance of reading for children, she said.

“One of our primary roles is to try to make it fun for kids to read and keep up their skills so that when they go back to school in the fall they haven’t lost ground in their reading abilities,” she said.

The cornerstone of the summer has been the library’s summer reading program, Martin said. The reading program itself has children logging hours either in person at the library or online and receiving free prizes for their efforts.

As of last week, there were 198 children registered in the summer reading program, she said. Between June 9 and July 21, participants had logged 276 hours, but she expects that to go up dramatically as people start filling in their logs.

This summer’s theme, “Read to the Rhythm,” has influenced the programming schedule as library staff combined literacy and music in story times, guest performers and crafts.

In previous weeks, children have been invited to programs where they heard a marching band, listened to different instruments played, received a lesson on dancing and visited a fire station.

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Youth Services Notes

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Thanks

for the photos and information!

- ◇ **Maureen Dorosinski**, Caroline Library, Inc.
- ◇ **Jane Williamson**, Library of Virginia
- ◇ **Bette Dillehay**, Mathews Memorial Library
- ◇ **Don Hirst**, Northumberland Public Library
- ◇ **Laura McFarland**, Powhatan Today
- ◇ The usual resources—VLA, PUBYAC, ALSC



Dates to Remember

Virginia Conferences

October 21-23, 2015 Virginia Library Association Annual Conference Richmond

National Conferences

November 6-8, 2015 YALSA'S 2015 Young Adult Symposium Portland
 April 5-9, 2016 Public Library Association 2016 Conference Denver
 June 23-28, 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference Orlando
 September 15-17, 2016 ALSC National Institute 2016 Charlotte

Workshops / Early Literacy Activity Center (ELAC) Exchanges

September 9-10, 2015 Library of Virginia Fall Youth Services Workshop Richmond
 September 16-17, 2015 Library of Virginia Coaching Workshop Burke
 October 1, 2015 STEM Training Wytheville
 October 2, 2015 STEM Training Chatham
 October 9, 2015 STEM Training Franklin
 October 27, 2015 STEM Training Bedford
 November 5, 2015 STEM Training Chesterfield
 November 6, 2015 STEM Training Fishersville
 November 13, 2015 STEM Training King George

Online Courses

September 7–October 2, 2015 Importance of Play online

Library Programs Logging Hours of Summer Fun

Continued from page 1

The last “Read to the Rhythm” event is a “Rock it Out with Reading” program at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 4 at the Village Green. Participants will hear music from a local band and, as with all of the programs, listen to at least one story.

Tracey Ingle, English instruction specialist for Powhatan County Public Schools, oversaw a July 21 program at Huguenot Volunteer Fire Department called “Shake, Rattle and Roll with a Good Book.” Children listened to Bill Melton, who represents District 4 on the Powhatan County Board of Supervisors, read two stories and then made their own musical instruments and visited the fire trucks. This summer’s theme is one children have gotten excited about, she added.



“Music is something all kids seem to have fun with,” she said.

Programs like these get the children excited about reading in general, but it also emphasizes for families that there is another resource outside of school for entertainment and education, Ingle said. An added bonus is introducing them to new things such as different styles of music or dance.

The library brought in musical performers such as Betsy Q in June and Robert Jospe in July. Jospe, who is a drummer, offered a cultural program on drumming that was provided by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, said Martin, adding it was the first time she requested the service from the museum.

In addition to the library’s regular story times on Mondays and Wednesdays, Martin is using this summer to test out two initiatives started because of feedback from patrons.

Monday Family Craft Nights and Saturday Family Fun Storytime days were started as a direct result of parents saying they wanted to bring their children to

programming but couldn’t come to the library on weekdays.

“We are trying to go outside the regular offerings by having some outreach and other opportunities outside working hours,” Martin said. “I think it is going really well. We are trying to do a lot, and the attendance seems to be really good.”

At a craft night held on Monday, July 20, several students had the opportunity to make their own musical instruments, including drums made from plastic coffee cans, maracas made from toilet role paper rolls and beans, and ukuleles made from plates, rulers and rubber bands.

Brandi Martin of Powhatan brought her two daughters, Samara, 6, and Jami, 7, and watched them have fun making the different instruments. She said her children love reading and music, so this year’s theme has been fun for them.

“The kids love it, and it encourages them to read and get new books,” she said.

The next Monday Family Craft night, “Come Grow with Us,” will be held at 6 p.m. on Aug. 17. The next Saturday Family Fun Storytime, “Frog, Frogs Everywhere,” will be held at 11 a.m. on Aug. 8.

Other library programs that have met with a good reception this summer are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) camps and continuing to partner with the Powhatan County Cooperative Extension to have the Powhatan Farmers Market Children’s Corner.

The library still has a Wind in Motion camp on July 30 and a Water camp on Aug. 20 left to go this summer. The fee is \$10 per session.

The farmers market is held from 4 to 7 p.m. every Thursday in front of Tractor Supply. The Children’s Corner activities left for the year are “Food Art Stamps” on Aug. 6; “Engineering Basics with Food” on Sept. 3, and “Let’s Get Carving” on Oct. 1.

For more information about the library’s summer programs, contact 804-598-5670 or go to the library’s page on the county government’s website, <http://www.powhatanva.gov>.

Laura McFarland is News Editor for Richmond Suburban News, Powhatan Today, and Cumberland Today.

Newspaper article and photo from Powhatan Today reprinted with permission from Ms. McFarland. 



Caroline Library, Inc.**Outreach Opportunities**

As the director of a county library system, I have had the opportunity to create outreach opportunities to bring library services outside of the four walls and directly into the lives of the people they serve.



One such instance is doing a pre-k storytime (and sometimes pre-literacy) craft session with local daycare centers. This particular day, I had just stocked our summer reading display with books donated by the SoHo Center and decided to take a few with me on my visit that afternoon. I went into the room with the book "Oh So Tiny Bunny" and saw the children were all sitting on the floor watching the movie Ice Age. I went and sat behind the group. As the movie still played, one by one they discovered me sitting there and got so excited and started climbing up on my lap and patting my hair and begging for me to read. The movie was turned off, and a truly magical afternoon began.

These books were perfect to add to our summer reading display along with the lists of books that the schools are reading. I bought multiple copies for all the branches. Fun books really rounded out the selections.

Submitted by Maureen Dorosinski. 

Northumberland Public Library**Summer Program: "Lego Build"**

The Northumberland Public Library held its final Lego Build of the summer July 28. The popular program drew nearly two dozen eager kids each Tuesday in July from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Lego builds were held July 7, 14, 21 and 28 and the free event was open to all children ages 6 and up. A snack also was served. Participants could either bring their own Legos or use ones from the library. Shown here are kids at the July 21 Lego build.



Photo by Karen Whelan.

Submitted by Don Hirst, Publicist 

LJ's 2016 Movers and Shakers Nominations

The editors of *Library Journal* need your help in identifying the emerging leaders in the library world. Our fifteenth annual round of **Movers and Shakers** will profile 50 or more up-and-coming individuals from around the world who are innovative, creative, and making a difference. From librarians to vendors to others who work in the library field, Movers and Shakers 2016 will celebrate the new professionals who are moving our libraries ahead. **The 2016 Movers and Shakers will be highlighted in the March 15 issue of *Library Journal*.**

If you prefer email over an electronic form submission, please email Ljinfo@mediasourceinc.com. All informational fields found by clicking the "Click to Nominate!" form below must be included on the email submission and must be attached as a Word document.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: November 6, 2015

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/movers-and-shakers/nomination-guidelines/>

Email sent to Virginia Library Association Google Groups list, August 3, 2015.

From ALSC Blog

A Notable Summer

“The first week of August hangs at the very top of the summer, the top of the live-long year, like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning. The weeks that come before are only a climb from balmy spring, and those that follow a drop to the chill of autumn, but the first week of August is motionless, and hot . . . These are strange and breathless days, the dog days.” —Natalie Babbitt, Tuck Everlasting

Odds are that at least one of your Facebook friends will post the above quote this week—and for good reason, as this is, IMO, one of the best descriptions of summer ever to come from an ALSC Notable Children’s Book.

Tuck Everlasting was named a Notable Children’s Book after its 1975 publication and is now widely hailed as a classic. Announced each year after Midwinter, the Notables lists of books, recordings, and videos, bring well-deserved attention to those titles which are “worthy of note or notice, important, distinguished, outstanding” and make superb resources for curating collections in libraries and homes. And Notables seals, just like those of the Newbery and its kin, help your library community discover these great titles.

I’ve found that a great late summer project can be making sure that all of the Notables in the collection have this honor glinting from their cover, and you can buy Notables seals in sets of 24 here: <http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=451> ,

or if you need 1,000 or more you can go here: <http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/W17T0e0x9Mkhy5NU6evdZ8> .

Thanks to all of the hard-working Notables committees over the years and best of luck to this years’!

Here are some other great summer-themed Notables from recent decades:

- ◇ **Blackout.** By John Rocco, Illus. by the author. Disney/Hyperion Books (2012 Books list)
- ◇ **Charlie Joe Jackson’s Guide to Summer Vacation.** By Tommy Greenwald, read by MacLeod Andrews. Brilliance. (2014 Recordings list)
- ◇ **A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever.** By Marla Frazee. Harcourt. (2009 Books list)
- ◇ **The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester.** By Barbara O’Connor. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. (2011 Books list)
- ◇ **Garmann’s Summer.** By Stian Hole, translated by Don Bartlett. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers. (2009 Books list)

- ◇ **Georgie Lee.** By Sharon Philips Denslow, illustrated by Lynne Rae Perkins. Greenwillow. (2003 Books list)
- ◇ **Horse Song: The Naadam of Mongolia.** By Ted and Betsy Lewin. Lee & Low Books. (2009 Books list)
- ◇ **Hot Day on Abbott Avenue.** By Karen English, illustrated by Javaka Steptoe. Clarion. (2005 Books list)
- ◇ **A Long Way from Chicago: A Novel in Stories.** By Richard Peck. Dial. (1999 Books list)
- ◇ **My Louisiana Sky.** Based on the novel by Kimberly Willis Holt. Hallmark Entertainment (2002 Videos list)
- ◇ **One Crazy Summer.** By Rita Williams-Garcia. Harper/Amistad. (2011 Books & Recordings lists)
- ◇ **The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy.** By Jeanne Birdsall. Knopf. (2006 Books list)
- ◇ **Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time.** By Lisa Yee. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine. (2006 Books list)
- ◇ **Summersongs.** By John McCutcheon. Rounder Records. (1996 Recordings list)
- ◇ **Sweet Corn.** By James Stevenson. Greenwillow. (1996 Books list)

Congratulations to everyone who is now beginning to wind down their summer programming, and warm wishes for an enjoyable rest-of-summer, and here’s hoping that these titles whet the appetites of our southern hemisphere colleagues for the season headed your way. Happy reading, viewing, and listening to all!

Posted August 3, 2015 by **Andrew Medlar**, President of the Association for Library Service to Children for 2015-16 and Assistant Chief for Technology, Content, & Innovation at Chicago Public Library. He can be found on Twitter @ammllib. 

“The library, I believe, is the last of our public institutions to which you can go without credentials. You don’t even need the sticker on your windshield that you need to get into the public beach. All you need is the willingness to read.”

~ Harry Golden ~



Library of Virginia

Safeguard Suggestions for Home Computers and SmartPhones

The following information was initially sent to staff at the Library of Virginia by [Jane Williamson](#), Library Technology Manager for the Library of Virginia. Also, she sent LVA staff specific information not included here about Library of Virginia computers.

You may be wondering why I'm putting the Home Computer selection below my signature. It's because I am making these recommendations to you as someone who has some information that may be useful to you personally. I am not representing the Library here and I'm not speaking to you as a Library staff member. **All information is provided for free and without warranty or and no implication of technical support for non-LVA systems.**

See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Non-Wikipedia_disclaimers for more fun language and disclaimers that basically say "Use/read this at your own risk". Also please note that most of my advice is for Windows based systems. If you have a Mac then most of the specific software sections will probably not apply but there is a Mac section below.



Home Computers

First, check to see if you have Flash on your home computer.

<https://helpx.adobe.com/flash-player.html>

Second, if you have Flash, update it:

<https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

Be sure to uncheck the box for whatever add-on software they're hawking (McAfee Security).

Third, this one is optional, disable plug-ins from automatically running. That same link for determining if you have Flash also gives instructions for enabling Flash. It's the basically same process to disable.

<https://helpx.adobe.com/flash-player.html>

Flash is notorious for zero day vulnerabilities. I highly recommend disabling it. You can always run it on a case-by-case basis. Your browser will tell you if there is Flash content on a page when Flash is disabled.

I'm going to assume that you are already doing the basics on your home computer. I define the basics as:

- Having up-to-date anti-virus software that updates definitions nightly and runs a scan at least weekly (for both Mac & Windows)

- Updating Microsoft Windows at least weekly (having it update automatically every night is even better)
- Updating Mac software as updates are released

Here are some other things to do:

- Install an ad-blocker in your browser. I use Adblock as a Chrome plug-in. It's also available for Firefox and Safari. Adblock Plus (not related to Adblock) is another option that works in more browsers. I haven't used that one but I have a friend who really likes it.
- Update all your 3rd party applications regularly. I use Ninite (<https://ninite.com/>) to download a handy installer that updates all my 3rd party applications at the same time. You go to the site, check the boxes for the software you have/want and then download the installer. Keep the installer on your desktop or somewhere convenient. Every so often (I run it weekly) run the installer again and it will update your applications without you having to visit a bunch of sites. It also automatically declines any of the software add-ons that the regular installers try to add (see above about Flash Player trying to install McAfee or Chrome).
- Use a password manager to make it easier to use long, complex passwords on important websites. I currently use LastPass (<https://lastpass.com>) and I've used KeePass (<http://keepass.info/>) in the past. I switched only because I needed my password manager to sync on multiple computers. Both work well. Personally, I NEVER install these on my phone or other portable device though it is an option.
- Backup your photos and documents offsite (i.e., not in your home). There are several options, personally we use Crashplan at home. Previously we used Carbonite and some of my friends use BackBlaze. Any of them will work. Some people also use Google Drive, Dropbox or One Drive (Microsoft) to back up their documents. These are really designed more for synchronizing documents across multiple devices but they are better than nothing. The advantage and disadvantage of Google Drive, Dropbox and One Drive (and other synchronizers) is that they will automatically synchronize changes as they are made in the specified folder. This is great because you don't need to think about it but bad because if you get a virus that corrupts your files it synchronizes the bad files. Each service offers slightly different options for reverting to previous (clean) versions of documents. Read the fine print to see what each offers. At least some of it.

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Safeguard Suggestions for Home Computers and SmartPhones

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Smart Phones

- Update your software regularly, both the apps and the Android or iOS operating system. I set my apps to automatically update when possible.
- Install anti-virus and security software on your smart phone. I personally use Lookout and Verizon's VZ Protect. I have friends that use Prey. In addition to protecting your phone from viruses most security software will allow you to remotely wipe your phone if it's lost or stolen. Lookout also offers an option of locating your phone on a map via a web browser, as well as "screaming" your phone if you've misplaced it. "Screaming" causes your phone to emit a very loud noise which makes it much easier to find when it's fallen behind the couch cushions. Not that I've ever done that. Side note: if you put Lookout on your teenager's phone you can easily locate them since most teenager's phones are surgically attached. I advise against "screaming" their phones just for funsies though.
- Use a lock code, lock pattern or fingerprint lock if it has one. If you lose your phone having a lock code will buy you enough time to wipe your data using your security software. Note: If you do use a fingerprint lock be sure to also set a backup password in case you can't use your fingerprint to unlock it.
- Even without security software you can probably remotely wipe your Android smart phone via a web browser and your Google Play account. <https://www.google.com/android/devicemanager?hl=en&u=0>. On the iPhone you must have it configured before you lost your device: https://support.apple.com/kb/PH2701?locale=en_US
- Back up your data. Backing up photos & videos to your Google account: <https://support.google.com/photos/answer/6193313?hl=en>.
- Turn off WiFi and Bluetooth when not in use. This will also extend your battery.
- Just like not opening email or attachments from people you don't know, you shouldn't visit open messages that are sent by people you don't know via text or MMS (texts with videos or photos). A recently found security flaw in Android lets attackers into your phone through videos sent via MMS. If your texting app is set to automatically

play vides embedded in texts then you only need to open the text to get infected. http://www.engadget.com/2015/07/27/android-stagefright-mms-video-exploit/?ncid=rss_truncated

Other things that may be helpful

- Buying a laptop for school: <http://lifelhacker.com/how-to-choose-the-perfect-back-to-school-laptop-1711946060>
- Lifehacker App Directory Curates the Best Apps for All Your Gear <http://lifelhacker.com/the-lifelhacker-app-directory-curates-the-best-apps-for-5803257>
- Emailable Tech Support, basic how-tos: <http://lifelhacker.com/tag/emailable-tech-support>

Macs

(Thanks/credit to Mark Fagerburg for this section)

Be sure to check the boxes "Automatically check for updates", "Download newly available updates in the background," "Install app updates", "Install OS X updates," and "Install system data files and security updates." The place to do this is the App Store icon in their System Preferences folder. 

From PUBYAC

Charging No Shows at Programs

Does anyone charge a fee to no-shows for programs? I have children's programs where 40 are registered and 8 actually show up. They're sent reminders the night before through email to call if they can't attend. These people still do not show up or call to allow someone else to have the space. I'm considering charging even just a quarter or something if you don't call to cancel so someone else can attend. Does any have this issue and charge a fee. The group sizes are too large to charge an advance fee with the refund if you show up. I don't want to inconvenience the regulars who register and show up. Posted July 22, 2015 by Carolyn Cullum.

 This is why I never (hardly ever that is) register for programs. We have good turn outs to most programs and whether a big group or small, we just roll with it. I always prepare enough craft stuff, print out enough color sheets, have enough treats, etc. I cannot be bothered with calling and email people to remind them and taking their names to begin with.

 It sounds like you're worried that people who want to come can't get in because of too many no-shows (as

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Charging No Shows at Programs

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opposing taking registration to see how many people are interested and tailoring a program for that size crowd) Can you give tickets out a set time before the program? We've only had a couple of ticketed events, but on the advice of a co-worker, noted on publicity and told people that tickets would be given out x amount before the performance. That eliminated people who signed up early but never showed. You could make it 30 minutes before the event; some people might line up to make sure they get a ticket, but once they have it, they could hang out in the library until the event time; it's unlikely they're going to wander off. Depending on your community, they either will make it a point to get there early, or just wander in if space allows. Charging a fee does create the allure of a more desirable event, but if it's too small to be punitive, the no-shows will keep no-showing, and anything large is penalizing.

🐦 I have been in YS and in programming for 34 years, and I think the tickets, given out 30 minutes beforehand, have worked the best for us. This summer we tried the system out for the craft programs, and some of our story times as well, and I think we all prefer it. We have two families which have 17 children between them, and if they didn't show up at the last minute, it was really unfair to others. We actually started the tickets with the paid programmers first, and found the system to be very fair. If you are number 211, and the program started 10 minutes ago, I don't feel so guilty turning you away, especially when you had a 40 minute time period to get here. It was also very time-consuming registering people, sometimes calling them to remind them (even though most of them received emails), and then trying at the last minute to contact other people on the wait list. Much, much easier.

🐦 We also use a ticket method for our storytimes and other very popular events. 15 minutes before the event for storytime and 30 minutes for bigger programs, we start handing out "tickets". When they're gone, they're gone. The tickets are laminated squares, decorated with a die cut and a number. We re-use them every program (we have many sets) and people drop them in a bucket on the way out. Since we had them out, we also know how many people are in for statistics. (If #47 was the first one we didn't hand out, 46 people are in the program). It's a good system, works very well for us. People are used to it, come get their tickets and then play in the library/browse books until we open the doors at 5 before the program.

🐦 We have a No-Show Statement which was crafted to combat this problem. We send out a reminder via email every so often to remind people of this and we've emailed no shows with a calculated amount of what it cost us for them not to be there along with an explanation of the policy. We have a problem adult right now and she has been told that she will be put on the wait list for the next program she registers for because she has not shown up to 3 programs that she has registered for, all of which had wait lists. Usually an email reminder with the cost calculated is enough to get people to let you know the next time. Many of our programs have wait lists, so no one wants to be automatically wait listed.

🐦 We hand out tickets with BINGO numbers on them. We have a small room to have storytimes in so we can only have fifty kids in there. We hand the kids a ticket when they come in and count the left over tickets to count how many kids are in the program. When the tickets are all handed out we shut the door. At the end of the program we roll the bingo basket and pick a few numbers and the winners get to go to the prize box and pick out a prize. Some kids at first don't understand why they don't get to get a prize but when you explain that not everyone can win that you will have to come back and try again they soon understand the process. The kids love it and always just want to skip to the end and draw numbers.

🐦 **I want to thank all who responded to my e-mail about whether or not to charge people who consistently register and then don't show up or call. Most of the suggestions, tickets, waiting lists, etc. I have already tried but I guess I will just persist and hope that people will be more considerate. You helped me to decide not to be charging at all but looking for people who are really chronic about it as others suggested. We want the library to be a happy place and that's why I hate having to tell people on the phone we are full (some parents don't want to show up unless I can guarantee a spot in the program). I guess nothing is perfect. Thanks so much to the GREAT BRAINS to help me calm down and know there is only so much you can do. Keep the Faith, Carolyn.** 📧

