

# FLIP THE PAGE

Monthly news, programs, and more from UCPL

## Help Save OUR Library

### MATTERS OF THE HEART

by Laura Elliott

I planned on some cutesy post about April showers, but that can wait. I want to be honest with all of you. UCPL needs community support more than ever right now. Our library has been struggling for far too many years. Though it may seem as if we have endless staff, events, books, etc... we don't. The truth is we are doing the most we can with the little we have and striving to provide the best possible services without revealing our trials. We are dubbed **The Little Library With A BIG Heart** for a reason.

We are fighting to survive. We are fighting to provide you with free services, books, programs, and more. I could hit you with statistics all day long, but I want to share from a personal view what has happened and is happening.

Our employees are so underpaid, they could make more money working part-time at a fast-food restaurant. Our collections were so outdated many had to be pulled due to misinformation. The building, though a beautiful and historical setting, has seen better, non-roof leaking, HVAC in-good-working-order days. Sadly, those days don't match the present. You may ask, "Why even try when libraries are becoming outdated?" And here is my reply: 21st century public libraries aren't just about books. Helping those in need and building community never become outdated. We have families in need of internet/wi-fi and computer access, social interaction, education, entertainment, food, a quiet place, or even just a roof over their heads. Our public library meets those needs. We have been blessed to help patrons fax/email loan or job applications or stood by their side when gathering info for a death claim. I could babble on and on, but I hope you get a glimpse of the important services we offer that are subtle or just go unnoticed.

If you want to help, join us **Thursday, April 7th at 5pm, at the Courthouse**, when we present our budget request to the Unicoi County Budget Committee and plead our case for adequate funding. Can't make it? Write a letter explaining what our library means to you and our community. We don't want to close our doors. We don't want to lay off staff members. We don't want to NOT be a part of this amazing community. We love our county and everyone in it.

Thanks to our Director, **Selena Harmon**, who has spent endless hours/days/weeks applying for grants and traveling over 1k miles to build up our library, its collections, and services. Thanks to Librarian, **Suzy Bomgardner** for her networking that resulted in hundreds of books for our young patrons. And most importantly, THANK YOU for supporting our library.

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# TEEN PAGE

by Laura Elliott

Miss Suzy has been hard at work making UCPL a great place for teens within our community. March was the launch of **TAB** (Teen Advisory Board) and **Crafternoon** - two successful events with some wonderful and encouraging youth members. Take a look for yourself!



Have I also mentioned, our teen volunteers spend hours/days

- making decorations
- placing spine labels on books
- shelf-reading their designated book areas
- weeding flowerbeds
- toting books to the basement
- helping us clean/vacuum??!
- assisting with program materials



These young ladies and gentlemen are some of the many reasons Miss Suzy became a Librarian. She works with our children and teens to make sure they have a safe and comfortable place to hang out and love literature! Check out what she has done to the Teen room at UCPL:



New shelving

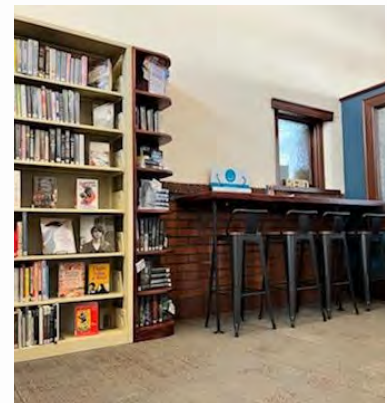


New paint & open floor layout

Miss Suzy



Charging station compliments of WUJ



Reading bar and corner shelf



**FUN FACT:** Our library has the MOST circulated materials for teen/young adults in our consortium!

## TEEN APRIL CALENDAR

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD



If you are interested in participating, please meet at UCPL on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 4:30pm.

### CRAFTERNOON



If you are interested in crafting, please meet at UCPL on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 4:30pm.

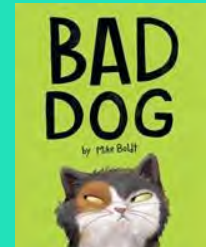


## STORY'S READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Kids get your library card ready! We have so many animal books on our shelves calling your name! Here are Story's top picks for April. She expects them to fly off the shelf.

### STORY SAYS:

We may not have it all together, but together we have it all. Help us be here to help you in the future!



## STORIES FOR THE MIND:

"A room without books is like a body without a soul." - Unknown.

We are so thankful for our animated, sweet, and fun-loving Miss Hannah and Miss Suzy. They put so much thought and work into entertaining our kiddos with beautifully written or side-splitting humorous stories. I mean (Spoiler alert) Miss Suzy just got drenched with 2 gallons of water for your kiddos' entertainment! Sometimes to children, reading can be a chore, simply words on a page. Not very interesting...Zzzz. But when you add Miss Suzy and Miss Hannah to the mix, there is no telling what will happen or just how much fun stories will be! In case you want to join in on the fun, here is their April schedule:



4/5/22 - Rain stories with Miss Hannah, 10:30am at UCPL



4/7/22 - Rain stories with Miss Suzy, 10:30am Online Story Time

4/12/22 - Easter stories with Miss Hannah, 10:30am at UCPL

4/14/22 - Easter stories with Miss Suzy, 10:30am Online Story Time



4/19/22 - Bedtime stories with Miss Hannah, 10:30am at UCPL

4/21/22 - Bedtime stories with Miss Suzy, 10:30am Online Story Time



4/26/22 - Tree stories with Miss Hannah, 10:30am at UCPL

4/28/22 - Tree stories with Miss Suzy, 10:30am Online Story Time

## UCPL'S SCHEDULE CHANGES



We will be **closed** on **Friday, 4/15/22** in observance of Good Friday.







# NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

by Suzy Bomgardner & Selena Harmon



APRIL 3-9 IS NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK, AND THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "CONNECT WITH YOUR LIBRARY." LIBRARIES OFFER EASY AVENUES TO LITERATURE, CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNITY, SO UCPL HOPES YOU WILL CELEBRATE AND CONNECT WITH US!

DURING THE WEEK, PLEASE VISIT YOUR LIBRARY. WE WANT TO SEE YOUR FACES! PLEASE SET ASIDE TIME TO DISCOVER ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS THE UCPL HAS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. WHETHER ATTENDING A FREE PROGRAM, GETTING TAX ASSISTANCE, ACCESSING A COMPUTER OR PRINTER, PERFORMING RESEARCH, REGISTERING FOR A READING CHALLENGE, PICKING UP A POPULAR MOVIE/TV SERIES, OR SNAGGING YOUR NEXT FAVORITE BOOK, THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE SPECIAL WAYS YOU CAN CONNECT WITH OUR LIBRARY.

ALSO THIS WEEK, TAKE A MINUTE TO POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA HOW YOU CONNECT AT YOUR LIBRARY. WE NEED ADVOCATES THAT USE OUR LIBRARY TO SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY HOW THE UCPL SERVES YOU. USE THE HASHTAG #MYLIBRARY AND #UNICOICOUNTYPUBLICLIBRARY TO SHOW YOUR LOVE. SAY IT LOUD AND PROUD! VOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT HELPS LIBRARIES SECURE MUCH-NEEDED FUNDING AND REMINDS HARDWORKING LIBRARY STAFF THAT THEIR EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED. IT'S A QUICK AND EASY WAY TO HELP THE UCPL THRIVE.

FINALLY, ON THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH, WHICH IS "NATIONAL ADVOCATE FOR YOUR LIBRARY DAY," WE ARE ON THE COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE'S AGENDA. WE COULD USE YOUR SUPPORT AND WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ADVOCATE SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH US. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES HEAR FROM THEIR CONSTITUENTS WHEN IT COMES TO ALLOCATION OF TAX DOLLARS. YOU HAVE THE POWER TO HELP US SECURE BETTER FUNDING - TO HELP OUR LIBRARY THRIVE, NOT MERELY SURVIVE. IF YOU CANNOT BE THERE TO STAND WITH US, CONSIDER WRITING A LETTER TO LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING HOW IMPORTANT THE LIBRARY IS TO YOU.

THANK YOU FOR CONNECTING WITH OUR LITTLE LIBRARY WITH A BIG HEART. LET'S CONTINUE TO BUILD OUR COMMUNITY.

## HOMEWARD BOOKS IS READY FOR RELAUNCH!

by Genisa Concepcion

At UCPL, we strive to serve everyone in our community. For those who want to access materials and programs but cannot, we can bring the library to them! Our much-loved delivery program will resume in May, along with an expansion of services offered - including access to our Summer Reading program! In addition to delivering library materials, we are looking to stock libraries at Senior Centers, Long-term Care and Rehab facilities, and other institutions where accessibility is an issue. We also wish to provide magazines and puzzles, so if you have those items taking up space in your home, please donate them to UCPL!

If you or someone you know cannot access the library, temporarily or long-term, please call us at 423.743.6533, ext. 4, and we'll get you registered before our relaunch in May!



**We are currently accepting magazines, current issues of the Erwin Record, and puzzles for our Homebound patrons.**



## PREPARE OR BE SQUARE!

We are beginning to seek sponsorship for our upcoming Summer Reading Program that launches June 1st! This is the biggest event our library participates in each year. This year's theme is **Oceans of Possibilities**. The event is free and open to all ages, and UCPL will be handing out weekly prizes to participants. If you haven't already, please create an account with the READsquared app and get ready for an awesome time! Summer Reading registration will officially open in May!! To access READsquared on your desktop go to <https://ucpl.readsquared.com/> and register for free! Need help? Just ask! Call 423-743-6533 and one of our friendly staff members will walk you through it.

# READING NOOK

Last month, we asked to send in pictures of favorite reading spots. Here are some of our favorites!



NEVER  
STOP  
READING



Is there even such a thing as a bad reading spot?? I must say I am loving the family library in that last picture. ♡♡

## CONSIDER IT CAPTIONED!

I'm here for my holds!

I win



Excuse me miss, you forgot to love on me this morning.

Meow

Sigh, another Monday gone to waste.

Give me my toy or I'll scratch you!

Why didn't Dr. Seuss put any catnip in his toys!



# HERE IS YOUR TIME TO SHINE!



## National Library Week **BOOKMARK CONTEST** Template and Official Entry Form

### NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

We are celebrating National Library Week by giving you a chance to show us and everyone else your creative side. In preparation for the 2022 Summer Reading Program, "Oceans of Possibilities," we think it would be fun to have some cool ocean-themed bookmarks. Simply draw your design in the template on this form.

### SUBMISSION & DEADLINE - No late entries

Submit contest entries on or before Tuesday, April 12, 2022 by 5:00 p.m.

Return this form to the Unicoi County Public Library.

Stop in or simply put it in the outside book drop.

OR

Scan & email to: SBomgardnerUCPL@gmail.com

### WINNERS

One bookmark from each age group will be chosen by UCPL Board members based on the rules below. The four winners' designs will be printed on bookmarks and shared with library patrons throughout the summer. All bookmarks will be proudly displayed in our library to spotlight the creativity of our community.

### DIRECTIONS & RULES

- Create an ocean-themed bookmark for the 2022 Summer Reading Program, "Oceans of Possibilities"
- Draw a design within the black lines of the rectangular template on the front side only.
- All artwork must be original and cannot include copyrighted materials (e.g., famous super heroes, princesses, or cartoon characters).
- Designs must be submitted on the official entry form.
- Bookmarks will be judged on: relevance to the theme, creativity, originality, and neatness. (Spelling counts!)
- One entry per person.
- All entries become property of the Unicoi County Public Library.

### PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

**CIRCLE age category:** 5 years & under    6-11 years    12-17 years    18+ years

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

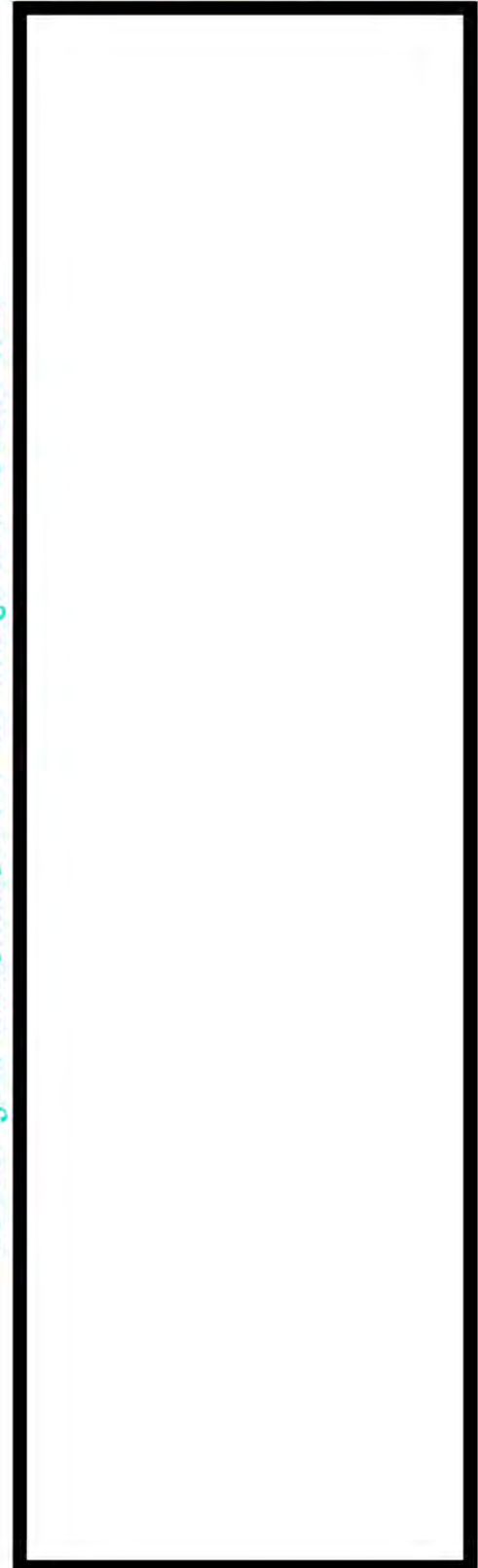
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Create your bookmark here! Be imaginative & have fun!



*By signing, you grant UCPL permission to use first and last name when giving credit to the artist and to use the name on the printed bookmark.*

Artist Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_

(required if artist is under 18)

# HAPPENING AT UCPL

April 9th

TECH SAVVY SERIES:  
STILL LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY  
10:00AM AT UCPL

**LEGO CLUB**  
1:00PM AT UCPL

April 13th

CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH  
MEET & GREET  
9AM AT UCPL

April 18th

TECH SAVVY SERIES:  
BUILDING TECHNOLOGY  
SKILLS FOR SENIORS  
10:00AM AT UCPL

April 22th

**PLANT A TREE PICK UP**  
2- 6 PM AT UCPL

April 23th

TECH SAVVY SERIES:  
NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY  
10:00AM AT UCPL

April 27th

CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH  
CLASS 9AM AT UCPL

**PAWS FOR READING**  
3:30PM AT UCPL

April 29th

REAL WORLD SKILLS SERIES:  
JOB READINESS  
ONLINE @ 7:00PM

April 30th

**JOIN US AT THE YMCA**  
**FOR HEALTHY KIDS DAY**  
12- 4:30 AT YMCA



Children's Learn to Draw books



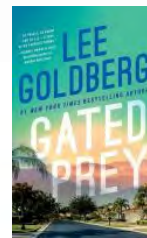
I spy books!



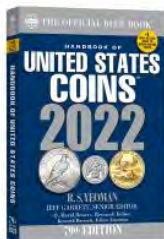
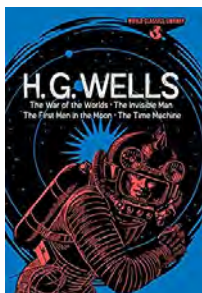
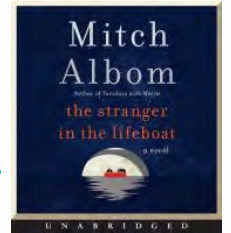
Children's biographies galore!



Spooksville series



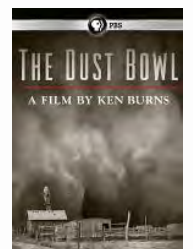
Adult Audiobooks



Hearts of Amish Country Series



Homeschool DVDs



Mysteries of Silver Peak series



Plants and such

