

PaperClips

Newsletter of the Friends of the Haywood County Public Library

www.folhaywoodcounty.org

Officers

President:

Clare Bass

Vice President:

Barbara Rowe

Recording Secretary:

Pam Witzcak

Corresponding Secretary:

Krystal Irven

Treasurer:

Lindsey Dills

Directors 2024-2026:

Russell Binkley
Kevin Murphy
Terri Wales

Directors 2025-2027:

Carol Clarke
Siobhan Warsinske
Deb Wiley

Management Change at the Book Shop



My name is Siobhan Warsinske, and I am the new Director of the Friends of the Library Used Book Shop. I am thrilled to be taking on this new role after being a volunteer and shift leader at the shop for several years.

Before coming to Haywood County, I was the Executive Director of a nonprofit mental health agency in Maryland. The agency grew under my tenure, and we achieved the Maryland Standards of Excellence for Non-Profits award, among other organizational accomplishments. This role emphasized the need for organizations of all sizes and mission to have a strong statement of purpose, clear direction to staff and volunteers, and careful attention to the day-to-day responsibilities for sound financial management.

For several years, my husband and I owned a used bookstore in White Plains, Maryland. Book Nuts Book Store operated under the mission of "Gathering the Most Interesting Books for our Customers." We were financially successful, but illness forced the book store's closure. We worked hard to find our niche in the community, supporting other community activities and finding creative ways to keep books in our community.

I genuinely believe that the Friends of the Library Used Book Shop has a definite role to play in supporting literacy in the community by providing support to the various activities of the Haywood County Public Library. I will seek to maintain a sound financial position for the bookstore and will work to improve our presence in the community so we can continue being an essential element of our community's literacy efforts.

Goodbye and Best Wishes to Amy Mellinger

Amy joined the FOL Board in 2022 and volunteered at the Book Shop before that, becoming a shift leader and finally taking over the management of the Book Shop in 2024. She and her husband, Dave were tireless workers at the shop and will be sorely missed. They are moving to Colorado to welcome a new grandchild in the spring.



Upcoming Events

Feb 18 - Book & Jigsaw Puzzle Swap,
4:30pm, Bosu's Wine Shop,
Waynesville

March 7 - Scavenger Hunt for Read
Across America, 11am - 1pm,
Downtown Waynesville

May 7 - Author Talk with Annette
Saunooke Clappsaddle, 6-8pm,
Wells Event Center, Waynesville

Save the Date - May 7th

Mark your calendars now! The FOL Annual Meeting and Author Talk will be held on **Thursday, May 7**, at the Wells Event Center, 33 Wells Events Way, in downtown Waynesville. This year's speaker is Western North Carolina writer Annette Saunooke Clappsaddle. With the 2020 publication of her book, *Even As We Breathe*, she became the first member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee to publish a novel. More details on this event to come!

From the Director



The Waynesville branch of the library remains temporarily closed for roof and HVAC replacement projects.

I am happy to report that contracted work is going very well and is on schedule, with very few weather-related impacts. The roof has been replaced and exterior painting is

underway. The HVAC work continues in the “penthouse” and the mechanical room. In addition to the roof and HVAC projects, Haywood County’s Facilities crew have been hard at work to replace all interior fluorescent lighting with LED bulbs, making for a much brighter interior. The LED bulbs will ensure higher energy efficiency, lower maintenance costs, and reduced cooling needs.

Work will begin shortly to replace carpet in the auditorium with vinyl plank flooring. With thanks to the Haywood County Public Library Foundation, the downstairs hallway carpet will also be replaced with vinyl planks, as well as some other worn flooring areas in the building.

All these improvements will ensure the main branch continues to serve our citizens for generations to come. By investing in a new roof and HVAC system, we’re creating a safer, more comfortable, and more energy-efficient space where people of all ages can connect, discover, and grow. These updates will protect the library’s collections, extend the life of the facility, and provide a more welcoming environment where the community can enjoy programs, resources, and quiet spaces for years into the future.

Limited exterior services available at Waynesville:

- Curbside pickup available for materials on hold
- Book drop open for materials returns
- Phones answered for cardholder assistance, technical issues, and holds requests
- No public access inside the branch; no in-person programs; parking area closed

We hope to announce a reopening date soon; specific dates will be shared as soon as possible.

Alternative Library Service

While the Waynesville branch is closed, please consider visiting the Canton, Maggie Valley, and Fines Creek branches, maintaining normal operating hours and services. In-person programming is being held at the Canton branch.

Canton branch: Monday & Wednesday: 9AM-6PM,
 Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 9AM-5PM, Sunday: 1PM-5PM
Fines Creek branch: Monday & Wednesday: 9AM-5PM
Maggie Valley branch: Tuesday & Thursday: 9AM-5PM

Additional services include:

- 24/7 Wi-Fi access in the parking lots of the Canton, Maggie Valley, and Fines Creek branches
- Online resources and digital books available at <https://www.haywoodlibrary.org/>
- Virtual programs and special events will be posted to the library’s YouTube channel
- Library card registration will be available online and at other branch locations

(continued)

President’s Message



Happy 2026! It is an old cliché, but the years really do seem to go by faster.

If you are like me, you are very excited about the upgrades at the Waynesville library. Most of the work are things that we, the patrons, will never really notice.

But the new roof and HVAC system are essential to keeping the building a safe and healthy space. There are also some changes that we will notice, such as new flooring in several spaces throughout the building. I am sure we all look forward to the reopening of the library in late winter.

In the mean time, if you are a Waynesville patron, I hope you have taken this opportunity to visit one or more of the other libraries in Haywood County. I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to get to know the Canton library staff a little better, and to enjoy that beautiful facility.

I want to take a moment to say a formal goodbye to Amy Mellinger. She has served as the Chair of the Book Shop Management team for several years. Amy is leaving the area to be closer to family. Thank you Amy for all your hard work and dedication. We all wish you well.

The FOL Board has appointed Siobhan Warsinke to fill the remainder of Amy’s term. You can read more about Siobhan’s experience below. I am very excited by what she brings both to the Board and to the Book Shop. Welcome Siobhan!

I promise that 2026 will bring several excellent FOL programs. Keep you eyes out. And, as always, there will be plenty of sales at the Used Book Shop. We hope to see you there.

Happy Reading!

Clare Bass - President

From the Director (cont)

I am thankful to Haywood County for funding these foundational updates to our main branch, and for everyone’s support. While I recognize the inconvenience this temporary closure may cause, this project is a necessary investment in maintaining the Waynesville branch for years to come. I encourage you to take advantage of our online resources, nearby branches, and virtual programming during this time.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to a fully reopened Waynesville branch in 2026.

Kathy Vossler – Director, Haywood County Public Library

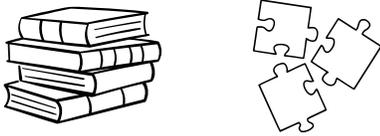
Book Shop Update

During these long winter months when our days are short and the temperatures are low, plan to snuggle up with some new books from the Friends of the Library Used Book Shop. During your visit, be sure to check out our latest selection of newly published books which make great gifts for yourself or others.

In January, our special will be **ALL Science, Medicine, Diet & Health books for \$1.00** each. February specials will include **ALL Biographies, History, Politics books for \$1.00**. Our March special will be **All Self-Help and Business books for \$1.00**. Remember that all proceeds benefit the Haywood County Public Library.

Come visit us at 101 W. Marshall St, Waynesville, Wednesday – Saturday from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Our volunteers would love to see you!

We would love to hear from you. You can contact the book shop at folhaywoodcounty@gmail.com. You can learn more about our upcoming promotions at our Facebook page: [facebook.com/FriendsofHaywoodCountyPublicLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofHaywoodCountyPublicLibrary/) or our website: folhaywoodcounty.org



Book & Jigsaw Puzzle Swap

The Friends of Haywood County Public Library are hosting a book and jigsaw puzzle swap on **Wednesday February 18 from 4:30-6pm** at Bosu's Wine Shop, 138 Miller St, Waynesville. Bring up to five books that you want to trade and be prepared to persuade others as to why they should read them. The books should be in good shape – remember you are trading them for other great books!

Jigsaw puzzles for adults are also being swapped. Bring up to five puzzles (with all the pieces, please!) and take home the same number you brought.

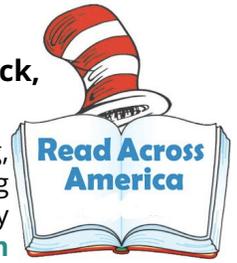
Each participant can take home the same number of books or puzzles they bring. Please limit it to 5. If you have more books you want to get rid of, please donate them to the Friends Used Book Shop at 101 W Marshall St in Waynesville during business hours, Wed – Sat, 10 am – 4 pm.

The Book Swap is open to all, with the focus on books and puzzles for adults. The first half hour is for viewing the books and socializing. The swap starts at 5. Friends of the Library Members are free; non-members \$5 (but your \$5 may go towards membership, if desired). Light appetizers will be served. Beverages and additional food items will be available for purchase. Registration is not necessary, but you can email us at folhaywoodcounty@gmail.com.

Scavenger Hunt

Our popular Scavenger Hunt is back, and we need volunteers to help!

To help celebrate the love of reading, we hold a Scavenger Hunt for the young and young-at-heart each year in early March. This year it is **March 7, from 11am to 1pm**.



Many young people and their parents participate by picking up a passport card of clues, which directs them to several local businesses in downtown Waynesville, where they receive a stamp to show that they had visited that location. Everyone who manages to collect all 6 stamps receives a gift certificate for a free book of their choice from the Friends Used Book Shop.

Last year, everyone had a lot of fun visiting all the shops and meeting the many FOL readers in town who stamped the passports. Through this adventure, many people made their first trip to the wonderful FOL Used Book Shop to pick out their free book, and they discovered that the bookstore always has great prices on a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books and a pretty cool children's section as well!

This year we have a dedicated starting point. Meet at the Old Time Musicians sculpture at the corner of Main and Miller streets in downtown Waynesville to pick up your clue card. You can also download a clue card from the FOL website, or pick one up at any of the participating businesses.

We hope that you will all join us to have some fun visiting all the shops, getting a little exercise strolling up and down Main Street, and receiving a free book to celebrate Read Across America.

If you would like to volunteer to be one of our "Readers" this year and participate in handing out and stamping passports, please send an email to folhaywoodcounty@gmail.com to sign up. We greatly appreciate our volunteers!

Read Across America Day is held annually near March 2nd, popular children's author Dr. Seuss' birthday. The day promotes reading among the population and especially children.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways you can volunteer to help the Friends of the Library. We need cashiers and sorters at the Book Shop. We need dedicated people to serve on our Board. We love people who want to get dirty with us and help with the landscaping at the library. We need creative types to help with social media and the newsletter. We need fun people to help with planning and running our events.

What can YOU do for us?

Contact us at folhaywoodcounty@gmail.com.

FRIENDS OF THE HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

678 South Haywood Street • Waynesville, NC 28786

Membership Form

Print full name and address:

- Please Check One:
- ___ Individual \$15.00
 - ___ Family/Couple \$25.00
 - ___ Bronze \$50.00
 - ___ Silver \$75.00
 - ___ Gold \$100.00
 - ___ Business Sponsorship \$100.00
 - ___ Non-profit Organization Sponsorship \$50.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Would you be interested in the following?

- Working in our Used Book Shop
- Planning Events
- Marketing/Promotions
- Gardening

Please make checks payable to Friends of Haywood County Public Library
and mail to: 678 S. Haywood Street • Waynesville, NC 28786 •
folhaywoodcounty@gmail.com

Contributions are tax deductible

678 South Haywood Street, Waynesville, NC 28786

FRIENDS OF THE HAYWOOD
COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

