

ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

A YEAR OF GROWTH FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

- (336) 299-3588
- alamancelibraries.org
- 342 S. Spring St.

Burlington, NC 27215

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## Mission & Values

Alamance County Public Libraries provide learning opportunities for all members of our community to be successful in living a larger life by nurturing the heart and the mind.



#### **EDUCATION**

ACCESS



LITERACY

#### Reflection From Our Director

While our 2019-2020 year started off on a upward trajectory with great programs being offered and new services being planned, it ended in quite a different manner than anticipated. COVID-19 scarred the world in unanticipated ways, causing closures and job loss on a massive scale. The Alamance County Public Libraries are forever changed as we were forced to find new ways to deliver services to our community.

On March 18th we closed the doors to the public for the safety of patrons and staff at the pinnacle of the COVID-19 virus in North Carolina. On March 30th, Governor Cooper enacted Executive Order #121 which began the unprecedented Stay at Home order for North Carolina. Virtual storytimes started almost immediately, and have been viewed over 5,000 times since it began. We also jumped ahead in many of our intended project timelines and were able to begin offering Hoopla movie, music, and television streaming and Creativebug, a crafting, cooking, and instructional resource for added things to do from home. We have also applied for a CARES grant to begin a circulating hotspot program.

Sadly though, what acted as a motivator for increasing some of our services, was a detriment to getting our Mobile Library. Production delays pushed our expected June/July 2020 timeline into late Fall or early Winter 2020. Our Mobile Cafe though, saw an added demand as schools moved to remote learning and working from home became common. The need for, and lack of, home Internet access in our community was highlighted and required a change in our Mobile Cafe routes.

Through it all ACPL still provided over half a million items to around 350,000 library visitors. Curbside service began May 11th and has provided over 25,000 items to over 5,000 users in two and a half months.

Our library was forced to act rapidly in response to COVID and I continue to be impressed and grateful to my staff for adapting so quickly and continuing to develop creative ways to reach and assist our community during unprecedented times. We continue to strive for excellence as our largest program initiative of the year, the Summer Reading program, moved to virtual programs, BINGO boards, and activity packets available through curbside.

It will be interesting to continue to navigate through restrictions and we appreciate the support, understanding, and patience of our patrons!

Susana Goldman

Director of the Alamance County Public Libraries

## May Memorial Library

Alamance County Public Libraries





The first public library serving Burlington was located in Broad Street High School in the early 1920s. By 1937, the public library had moved to temporary quarters in a storefront located on Main Street. In 1938, industrialist W.H. May, Sr. and his two sons donated \$15,000 towards the purchase of the old U.S. Post Office for use as a public library. This building was constructed in 1918 and stands at the corner of E. Davis and S. Spring Street.

May Memorial Library opened for business on June 2, 1938. At that time, only the main floor fronting on S. Spring St. was in use. In 1945, a Seth Thomas grandfather clock was donated to the library by Col. Eugene Holt, grandson of textile magnate E.M. Holt. It quickly became a much-beloved symbol of the library within the community. In 1955, the basement floor with an entrance on E. Davis Street was remodeled and opened to the public.

By the 1960s, Alamance and Chatham counties had signed a formal cooperation agreement to become the Central N.C. Regional Library with May Memorial Library as its headquarters. In 1981 a new library wing with approximately 4,600 square feet of additional space on the main floor was opened and the basement and second floor of the library were given over to staff work areas. In the late 1990s, local textile CEO Allen Gant, Jr. of Glen Raven, Inc. offered an adjacent building, the former Sears Department Store, to the City of Burlington to expand the public library. The original 1918 building and 1981 addition were linked as one wing with the 1950s Sears building as the other wing connected by a vaulted ceiling entryway and officially opened November 17, 2000.

## Graham Public Library

Alamance County Public Libraries



Graham Public Library 211 S. Main St. Graham, NC (336) 570-6730



The opening of the Graham Public Library as an extension of the May Memorial Library was the highlight of library service in 1967 in Alamance County. Through a partnership with the City of Graham and the board of the May Memorial Library, the Graham Public Library opened in September 1967 in the Graham City Hall as a 3,000 square foot facility with more than 5,000 books. In 1969, the Stokes family was commemorated for the monetary gift made by the Stokes children in honor of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Stokes, which made the Graham Library possible.

In 1994, a two million dollar project was approved to construct, equip and furnish two new Graham facilities: the Graham Public Library and the Graham Police Department. Scheduled to be completed in 240 days, both buildings were placed south of the municipal building; the police department off of Maple Street and the library off of Main Street. The new 10,500 square foot library, which is more than three times the size of the original library, opened its doors on Monday, July 31, 1995.

## Mebane Public Library

Alamance County Public Libraries



Mebane Public Library 101 S. First St. Mebane, NC (919) 563-6431



In 1935 the idea that started the Mebane Public Library began with a local literary club, the Reviewers. Through their efforts in recruiting support and funds, the small beginning of the Mebane Public Library was made possible by Mr. E. M. Yoder, Principal of the Mebane Public School in 1936. Members of the Reviewers Club served as library clerks in the small room in the school. The official Mebane Public Library opened in December 1936 in the Commercial & Farmer's Bank Building, situated at the corner of Clay and North Fourth Streets.

In the Fall of 1941, the building owners offered to sell the building to the City of Mebane for the permanent home of the library. Through the efforts of local civic club fundraising, the building was purchased without the use of any tax payer funds. In 1975, the library moved into a 5,000 square foot space in the back of the Mebane Town Hall.

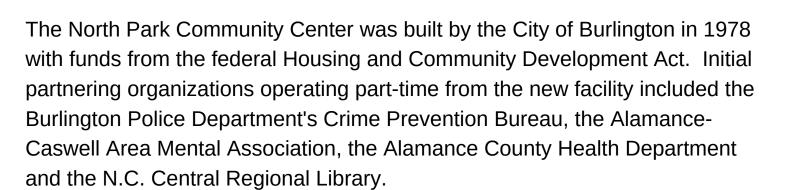
By the late 1990s, the windowless space at the Mebane City Hall had become cramped and library use had outgrown the space. In the early 2000s the idea to refurbish a vacant mill building revitalized the community. Built in 1919 as Durham Hosiery and changing hands over the years to become Dixie Yarns in the 30s and R.L. Stowe Mills until 2001, the renovated space offered three times the capacity for the new Mebane Public Library and opened its doors on November 7, 2005.

## North Park Library

Alamance County Public Libraries







On May 15, the North Park Library opened in a small room (approximately 300 square feet) of the community center and offered 'listening posts,' special programs, a story hour and a small collection of books and materials.

As popularity grew, a meeting room space was added to the library's availability, doubling the size to approximately 600 square feet. This allowed for more materials and the eventual addition of public computer space. In 2015, the City of Burlington began renovation projects in North Park. Early efforts provided new carpet and a reorganization of resources. Later efforts included a brand new entrance within the atrium of the community center.

532,363
ITEMS CIRCULATED
355,892
VISITORS

MAY-JUNE CURBSIDE 26,417
ITEMS CIRCULATED 5,699

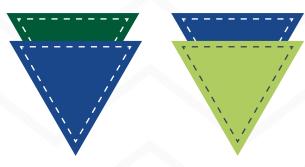
1,166
PICK-UPS
ZOOM PASSES JULY - FEBRUARY

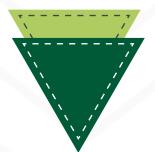
113,560

COMPUTER AND WI-FI USES

1,388

PROGRAMS OFFERED





33,245

PEOPLE ATTENDED PROGRAMS

COVID-19 forced a quick switch from in-person services to virtual. Our Virtual Programming totals are from May - June as we did not track statistics for April programs.

#### VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Total Program 63 Live Views 273 On-Demand Views 3,287

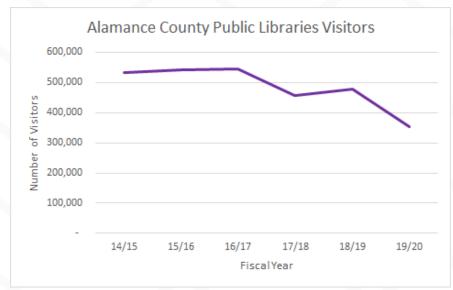
## PUBLIC LIBRARY Alama







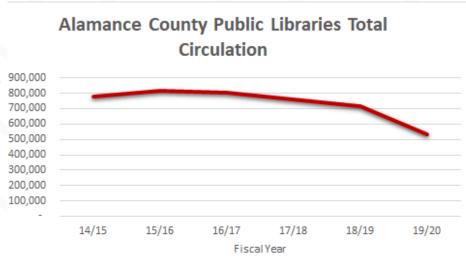
Alamance County Public Libraries

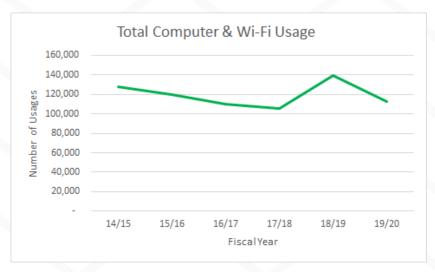


The total library visitors in FY 2014-2015 was 534,201. In FY 2019-2020, it was 355,892, a decrease of 33%. Closing the doors to the public due to COVID-19 on March 18th, caused four months of no library visitors, a blow to our trend for the year which was an increase in visitors from July - February.

FY 2014-2015 total circulation was 782,256. In FY 2019-2020, it was 632,363 a decrease of 19%. COVID-19 resulted in a visible drop in check-outs but not as much as it could have been without the downloadable books.

Trends for the year would have shown an increase without the disruption.





FY 2014-2015 computer usage was 127,964 and has since dropped to 113,560 in FY 2019-2020. A typical monthly computer use (public computers & Wi-Fi) is around 11,000, COVID-19 led to only three months of sole Wi-Fi use parked outside our buildings and on the Mobile Cafe, which totaled 1,806.

# YEAR TO

OMPARISO

103,948

NUMBER OF ACTIVE LIBRARY CARDS

9,885

NEW LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

215,397

ITEMS IN THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

64,606

ITEMS TRANSFERRED BETWEEN BRANCHES



1,338,364

TOTAL CATALOG VIEWS

98

AVAILABLE DATABASES

321,646

DATABASE USAGES

Alamance County Public Libraries offers four meeting rooms for public use.

One at the Mebane Public Library, one at the Graham Public Library and two
at the May Memorial Library.



Meeting Rooms closed as of March 18th and did not reopen for the rest of the fiscal year.

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**Public Uses of Meeting Rooms** 

**Total Attendance of Meeting Room Uses** 

261

3,146

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Alamance County
Public Libraries



## ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

#### Every Child Ready to Read

An innovative program to encourage parents to participate in enrichment activities that create the building blocks for reading through the development of fundamental skills through: talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing.

#### StoryWalks

There are five StoryWalks scattered around Alamance County that feature deconstructed children's books in a safe, social distancing activity for families that promotes literacy and physical activity.

#### What We Offer

#### Virtual

#### Storytimes

A new addition this year due to COVID-19 but well received and something that will continue when services return to normal.

## Book Clubs for All Ages

Reading for 20 minutes a day exposes readers to 1.8 million words a year. ACPL offers twelve book clubs to share the love of reading with others, even shifting to virtual meetings didn't stop the momentum!

#### On the Shelves

A new video series on our YouTube page highlighting many of the new titles, by genre, available for check out.

#### Your Next Great Read

A new personal readers' advisory service for patrons. Participants can submit their reading preferences are are assigned a personal readers' advisory specialist to select books for readers to try. Resulting in exposure to new authors, subjects, and a personal reading relationship with staff.



### **JOB RESOURCES**

Making Opportunities a Reality



## Citizenship & GED

Alamance County
Public Libraries
partners with
Alamance Community
College to offer regular
GED and Citizenship
classes to the
community, which
moved to virtual during
COVID.



#### NC LIVE

Gale Testing &
Education Reference
Center accessed
through NC LIVE offers
practice exams in a
wide variety of career
fields. Cypress
Resume helps create
resumes and develop
skills to prepare for job
interviews.



## Online Job & Career Training Resources

ACPL staff began developing online training videos that are shared through social media and YouTube on Job and Career tools and resources available electronically.





#### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

ASSISTING THE ALAMANCE COUNTY COMMUNITY

#### Virtual Resources

We offer a wide variety of virtual resources that include content such as ebooks and textbooks, practice tests, homework assistance, project research material, training videos, and much more.



#### **GED Classes**

for students who have not completed their high school education.

These classes are offered to those who need to improve academic skills in order to qualify for better jobs and switched to virtual platforms during COVID.



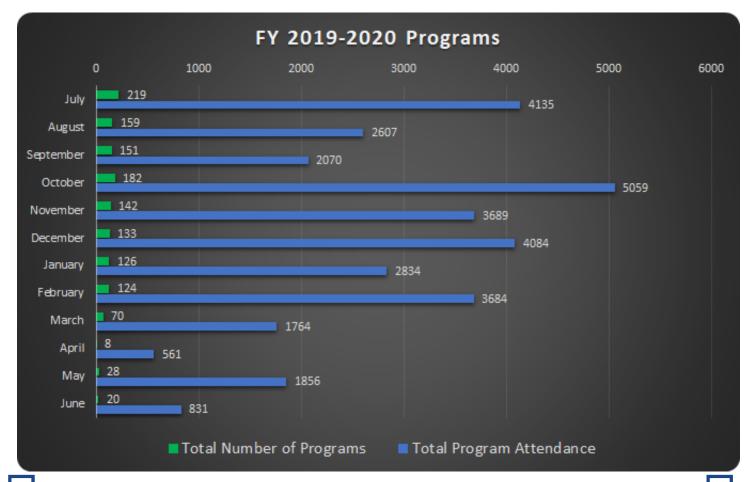
#### **ACPL Connect**

ACPL Connect
accounts provide
students with easily
accessible information
and educational
resources. Students no
longer need library
cards. Instead, they can
use their school ID
number to access
library services.



## Program Statistics

Number of Programs		Attendance at Programs	
Adult programs	523	Adult attendance	10,267
Young Adult programs	82	Young Adult attendance	521
Children's programs	720	Children's attendance	19,170
Virtual Programs	63	Live and On-Demand Views	3,287
Total Number of Programs	1,388	Total Attendance at Programs	33,245



#### **Virtual Programming**

#### **Live Virtual Programs**

18
184
565
5
42
19
6
5
757
1

Recorded Virtual Programs	
Recorded Virtual Children's Programs	9
Views of Recorded Children's Programs	77
Recorded Virtual All Ages Programs	10
Views of Recorded All Ages Programs	928



## Passport Services

## Passport Services is available at the May Memorial Library.

Fiscal Years	Passport Applications	Visitors	Phone Calls	Totals	Out of County Customers	Out of County Total
Jul 19	99	236	93	428	59	24
Aug 19	109	251	102	462	43	22
Sept 19	98	193	84	375	33	17
Oct 19	92	186	77	355	33	13
Nov 19	66	136	58	260	30	14
Dec 19	69	203	64	336	39	12
Jan 20	153	299	114	566	88	46
Feb 20	146	241	93	480	66	31
Mar 20	81	201	59	341	34	12
Apr 20	CLOSED					
May 20	07	47	CLOSED	54	10	04
Jun 20	40	159	02	201	36	12
Total Fiscal Year end 06/20	960	2,152	746	3,858	(470)	207



## Outreach Services



Outreach patrons coloring project display

#### **HOME-BOUND BOOKS**



HOME-BOUND BOOKS is a program that delivers print materials on a monthly basis to patrons around Alamance County. It also offers a Books by Mail USPS service.





**Outreach Patrons** 



Materials Delivered

10,642



**Outreach Volunteers** 

20 Volunteers 147 Visits Each Month 1,764 Yearly Total

**150** 

#### Outreach Services



#### MOBILE CAFÉ



Bringing the internet to remote locations in the county. Our locations have tables, chairs, and benches to work comfortably while connecting to our Wi-Fi.





Mobile Cafe Patrons

1,046



Wi-Fi Usages

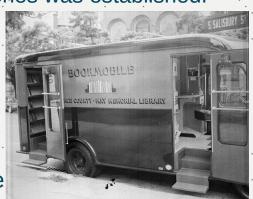
815

## Outreach Services

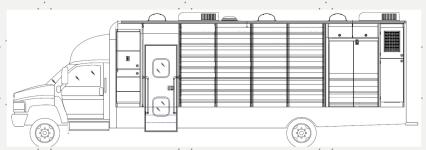
#### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

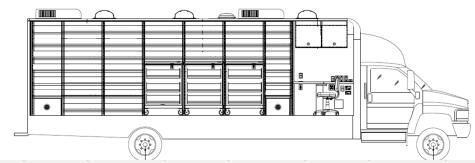
In 1938, a county bookmobile began it's service in Alamance. Carrying 400 books in a converted light delivery truck, a three week rotation of deliveries was established.

By 1951, a second vehicle increased capacity to 1,600 books and records, making deliveries to 83 stops every two weeks. The next thirty years of continuous bookmobile service continued to grow and thrive in Alamance County until the last vehicle couldn't be replaced in the late 70s/early 80s.









#### Thank you to our Funders & Sponsors!

Library Services & Technology Act Grant,
Impact Alamance Grant,
Friends of the Alamance County Public Libraries,
Various Trusts and Endowments to ACPL,
Generous Donations from Alamance County Citizens,
Alamance Community Foundation,
Sean Boone - Alamance County Attorney,
LabCorp

## Partnerships &

### Collaborations



#### Community Partners

Over 200 partnerships with the community including ABSS, ACC, Elon, Impact Alamance, United Way, and many more.

Citizenship Classes

ESL Classes

Fitness Classes

**GFD Classes** 

Crafting Classes
Enrichment Programs



#### **ACPL Connect**

Providing students with easily accessible information and educational resources. Partnering with ABSS, The Burlington School, The Hawbridge School, Clover Garden School, & Alamance Community School.



#### Zoom Pass Program

Offering families access to hands-on educational and life skills opportunities at thirteen different organizations and museums, including new partnerships with local theater groups and parks.



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## Thank you to all who have partnered with us this year!

The African American Cultural Arts and History Center

Alamance Arts

**Alamance Achieves** 

Alamance Burlington School

System

Alamance County Beekeepers

**Alamance Cares** 

Alamance Community College

Alamance County Health

Department

Alamance Parks

Alamance Partnership for Children

Alamance Pride

Allie, William, Carmen, and King

INC.

American Red Cross

**ARMC** 

**Books on Bikes** 

Bricks for Kids

Burlington Christian Academy

Burlington Parks & Recreation

Graham Parks & Recreation

YMCA Free Summer Time

Playground

**Champions Academy** 

City of Burlington

City of Graham

City of Mebane

Town of Elon

Department of Environmental

Quality

Elon University Art Collections

Elon University Early Childhood

Education Dept.

Jessica Embry

Mrs. Wardelia Enoch

The Exchange Club Family Center

Christian Academy

Gibsonville Public Library

**Red Oak Brewery** 

Alamance Children's Theater

Kidzu Children's Museum

North Carolina Zoo

The Painted Grape

The Burlington School

**Vocational Rehabilitation** 

Cane Creek Friends Meeting

Feed the Streets, Inc.

Front St. Playschool

Haw River Assembly

Elaine Head and Buford (the dog)

Headstart

Home Depot

Impact Alamance

Kathleen Johns and Shaka (the dog)

Legal Aid of NC

Mayco Bigleow Community Center

Pat McDonald, Village at Brookwood

Mebanesville

Mebane Arts and Community Center

Carol Moore, Elon LDS Family

**History Center** 

NC Department of Cultural

Resources: Archaeology Department

NC Science Festival

New Covenant Day Care

**OE** Enterprises

**Orange Literacy** 

Piedmont Triad Regional Council

Graham Fireman Beau Russell

Freehand Market

Steam Junction

Studio One

Stormwater Smart

Teens Destined to Succeed, Inc.

Town of Elon Parks Department

The Workshop

Front Porch Apparel Company

Women's Resource Center

You Can Vote

Durham Museum of Life & Science

Animal Park at the Conservator's

Center

Young Musicians of Alamance

Hawbridge School

Children's Museum of Alamance

County

North Carolina Transportation

Museum

Scott Community Health Center

Fairview United Methodist Church

**Anggie Thompson** 

Rock Creek A.M.E. Church

Sylvan Heights Bird Park

Chamber of Commerce of

**Alamance County** 

Burlington Downtown Corporation

**Alamance Community Foundation** 

Piedmont Health

Jennifer Bunone

Kim Ragland

Sara Ingle

Holly Henderson Bourne

**Bright Star** 

Casey's Laugh and Learn

The Curly Fries

Wild Tails, LLC

**Graham Cinema** 

Morehead Planetarium

Rags to Riches

Mad Science

**Burlington Beer Works** 

Smitty's

The Blend

Filament Coffee

Reed's Coffee Shop

Sheetz - Burlington

S & S Auto Trim

Jason Cox

Davis Street UMC Women's Club

**Burlington Junior Woman's Club** 

**Burlington Housing Authority** 

Sylvan Ruritan's Club

Mebane Women's Club

Mt. Hermon Community Club

**Burlington Women's Club** 

Alamance County Dental Clinic

Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club

Sylvan Elementary PTA

CrossRoads

The Press

**Bright Penny Brewing** 

Roasted Coffee Depot

The Creativity Caravan

Carolina Restaurant Supply

Sankoffa Farms, LLC

#### Library Staff

ADMINISTRATION	
Director	Ś
Office Manager	Te
Associate Director of Operations	D
Associate Director of Technical Services	Ň
Associate Director of Community Relations	٧
Couriers	Ν

üsana Goldman erri Lamm Peana Cunningham Cataloging Librarian Nartha Sink, acant/ Nark Drennen Vacant

TECHNICAL SERVICES Technical Processing Assistant Wardelia Enoch Library Acquisitions Assistant

Martha Way Mary Desrosiers

PASSPORT SERVICES

Passports Manager

Edwina DeRosa

**OUTREACH SERVICES** 

Outreach Coordinator Mobile Cafe Driver Bookmobile Driver

Mary Beth Adams Vacant

Susie Flores

#### MAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY **Full Time Staff**

Branch Manager Local History & Genealogy Librarian Lisa Kobrin Adult Programming Coordinator Youth Services Coordinator Library Assistant II Library Associate Library Assistant II Children's Services Manager Library Assistant II Library Assistant I

Ericka Hill Amanda Gramley Elizabeth Weislak Katie DeVriese Kathy Garrison

Charrity Johnson Candice Sanders Emery Lai Tammy Stewart

#### Part Time Staff

Library Assistant Donavon Anderson

Haley Peterson Circulation Assistant Tonya Black Kaity Moore

> Varlese Hall-Grady Jaime Graves . Nakisha Moore

Pat Hill, Amber Shoffner, Vacant, Denise Tate

#### **GRAHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY Full Time Staff**

Branch Manager Library Associate Children's Services Manager Library Assistant II Library Assistant I

Wendy Kimbro Risha Bigelow Barbara Seibold Amanda Shoop April Lankford

#### **Part Time Staff**

. Shelvers

Library Assistant Kayleigh Dyer Circulation Assistant Ray King Shelvers Jennifer Brehm Alison Bowman

#### MEBANE PUBLIC LIBRARY **Full Time Staff**

Branch Manager Library Associate Library Assistant II Children's Services Manager Library Assistant I

Katherine Arends James Downes Tracy Wright Tampa Enoch-Reese Amy Segposyan

#### **Part Time Staff**

Library Assistant Vacant

Samantha Hunter Circulation Assistant Vacant

> Jackie Brown Margaret Baba Kelly Mediey Vacant Madison Keeney

Shelver NORTH PARK LIBRARY **Full Time Staff** 

Alexis Vivian

#### **Part Time Staff**

Circulation Assistant Kelsey Blackburn

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Technology Tutors

Local History

Branch Manager

We couldn't function without our many amazing volunteers. Here are a just some of the few tasks they accomplish...

Outreach Deliveries Greeter Collection Maintenance Technical Services

Program Preparation Special Projects FOL Book Sale Preparation

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#### Library Committee Members

Susana Goldman - Director

- Kristen Whitlow Chair
- Courtney Doi
- Paula Hendricks
- Emily Connor
- Dodie Boone

- Logan Savits
- Colleen Macklin
- Renee White
- Jordan Dawson
- Steve Carter, County Commissioner





FRIENDS OF THE ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES support the programs and activities of the Alamance County Public Libraries. Our mission is to increase interest in and to raise the level of library services in our community, to better relationships between library staff and community, to give and allow the exchange of information, and to encourage education and literacy.

- · Julie Monroe, President
- Barbara Roberts, 1st Vice-President
- Madison Taylor, 2nd Vice-President

Anne Hogan

Debbie Mann

Gay Sharpe

Laura Wright

Linda Shirley

Matt Wall

Ron Oakley

Kathy Oakley

Debra Scott

- Debbie Gunyan, Treasurer
- Jeff Tudor, Past President
- Pat Shoffner, Secretary

Patsy Pringle

**Rosemary Lewis** 

Sue Buckley

Virginia Kenney

Crystal Humble

Hal Vincent

**Robert Linens** 

Susan Gant

The Friends of the Alamance County Public Libraries fund 100% of all programming materials for Alamance County Public Libraries.

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"I think the library is awesome. I panic if I don't have a book."

- Patron



"A great place to go anytime. The staff is very helpful and knowledgable.

A great collection of books, papers, and

DVDs.

- Patron



"I enjoy visiting the library with my daughter and grandsons. Such Programs."

- Patron



## Get Connected Our Social Media



www.facebook.com/AlamanceLibraries 3,476 Followers



www.twitter.com/ACLibraries 965 Followers



www.instagram.com/alamancelibraries/
1,295 Followers

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNI2 uOEDIvKZ4iPcVaXRANw/ 43 Subscribers



The Alamance County Public Libraries have worked to build a community-based space for Alamance County.

We strive to provide an abundance of events and activities to our community members that bring them together through both education and enrichment.

We are thankful for an amazing staff and supporters who help make all of this possible.

Thank you!



