



# Library System Report

EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA • PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Regional Library and Heritage Center • Cape Charles Memorial Library • Chincoteague Island Library • Northampton Free Library

May 2025

## Director's Update



**Christopher Pote,**  
**System Director**

Please join us Saturday, June 14th, at Eastern Shore Community College from 10am—2pm for SummerFest! Our Summer Reading Program, "Color Our World", is kicking-off with bounce houses, balloon animals, a DJ, face painting, kids' crafts and games: all FREE OF CHARGE! There is a live bird demonstration by Rodney's Raptors at 11am. Summer Reading registrants will automatically be entered to win a prize basket; and our Trek e-bike give-away tickets will be on sale from the ESPL Foundation. Food trucks will be available on site for lunch, so come on out and enjoy a beautiful summer morning with us!



### Upcoming June Highlights Eastern Shore Public Library System

- **9th: Kids Nature Walk - The Nature Conservancy, Brownsville**
- **12th: Adult Craft Night - NFL**
- **12th: Summer Tea Blending - ESRL**
- **14th: SummerFest @ ESCL - NFL & ESRL CLOSED**
- **17th: Staff In-Service - NFL & ESRL CLOSED**
- **18th: Memory Café - ESRL**
- **18th: Summer Reading Kick-Off - CCML**
- **19th: Juneteenth - ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED**
- **23rd: Mike Klee Magic Balloon Show - ESRL**
- **29th: Family Movie Night: *The Secret of Moonacre* - ESRL**
- **Tech Help: Every Wednesday - NFL**
- **Ancestry Help: Every Wednesday - ESRL**
- **Heritage Center Reference Assistance: Every Thursday - NFL**
- **Storytime Anytime: Every Monday & Wednesday - NFL**

For times & more information: [espl.org](https://espl.org); (757) 787-3400

CIL = Chincoteague Island Library

CCML = Cape Charles Memorial Library

ESRL = ESVA Regional Library & Heritage Center

NFL = Northampton Free Library



# SUMMER FEST

JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER  
READING KICK-OFF EVENT

at the Eastern Shore  
Community College

**JUNE 14TH 10AM-2PM**

- bounce houses
- yard games
- face painting
- food trucks
- DJ
- crafts & activities
- community info tables
- sign-up for summer reading!



EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

**Public Library System**

*Special thanks to our sponsors: The Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library and the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library Foundation*

Summer  
Reading  
Program  
June 14 - August 9



ESPL Calendar  
of Events





EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

# Heritage Center

[esplheritage.org](http://esplheritage.org)

Jazmine Collins, Reference Manager & Local History

Now on display on the Heritage Center's gallery walls is an exhibit of maps featuring the Eastern Shore of Virginia. On one side of the gallery is a selection of historical maps primarily used for navigation. It begins with John Smith's 1612 map of Virginia and ends with a primary and secondary highway map published by Mason-Davis Realty Co. in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. These maps explore how depictions of the Eastern Shore changed as cartography became more accurate and as new features developed on the Shore like towns, roads, and the railroad.

The other side of the gallery shows the various uses maps have besides navigation. These functional maps include topographic maps, bathymetric charts, soil surveys, and maps that chart specific information like property boundaries and the location of points of interest. Of note are the two Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. maps, both from 1926, that show Parksley and Cape Charles. These maps recorded individual risks, noting property descriptions, occupancy, construction materials, fire protection, and hazards for residential and mercantile blocks. The blocks where the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center and the Cape Charles Memorial Library stand today are exhibited.



The Heritage Center hosted a table and exhibited a display regarding the history of the Nassawadox Saw Mill at the Peninsula Tractor Association's event on May 3rd. For the event, the Peninsula Tractor Association demonstrated the mill's saw and wood shredder, gave tractor rides, and hosted an antique tractor parade. The weather was perfect and the event was well attended.

Heritage Center staff also hosted a table at Kiptopeke State Park's History Day on May 10th. The event featured short lectures on the history of state parks, Native American History, and African American history. Staff created an interactive map activity encouraging attendees to place magnetic town names in the correct area on the map. Many of the event's visitors were not local but they enjoyed the activity nonetheless. The activity map will be hung in the library later in June. Staff will be conducting outreach at both Accomack and Northampton County's Juneteenth celebrations in June. The Heritage Center will host the Library of Virginia's *Strong Men and Women* traveling exhibit starting June 2nd.





# Technical Services

Charle Ricci, Collection Management and Acquisitions Librarian



## Streaming Video Services: Kanopy and Estante Infinito

As Summer arrives and schedules loosen up a bit, ESPL's two streaming video services offer a perfect way to spend some time relaxing (and learning!). Thanks to the generous support of local donors and Friends of the Library groups throughout the ESPL system, library patrons have access to over 35,000 high-quality films from around the globe that inspire, educate and entertain with **Kanopy**.



kanopy  
stream smarter

Kanopy's unique selection offers something for everyone, from award winning indie films and important and timely documentaries, to foreign films, popular cinema, and more.

Kanopy also features over 500 Spanish language titles for native Spanish speakers, as well as for individuals working on improving their Spanish language skills.

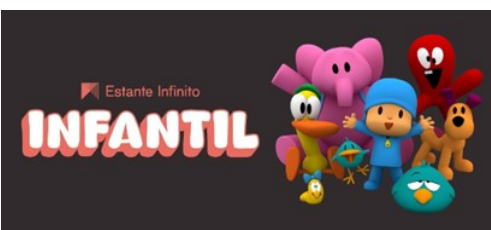
In addition to videos and films for teens and adults, ESPL also offers unlimited access to Kanopy Kids. This collection for younger viewers includes a carefully curated collection of children's programming that supports early literacy, STEM education, and even foreign language learning.

Viewers can access Kanopy anytime and anywhere from their desktop or laptop computer, through mobile and tablet apps for Apple and Android devices, and by using SmartTV apps like Roku, Apple TV, and Fire Stick. The viewing experience is easy-to-use and completely advertisement free. To get started with Kanopy, visit <https://espl.kanopy.com/> on a desktop or laptop computer, or download the Kanopy app through the App Store and Google Play.

In addition to Kanopy, the Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library have also graciously supported one of the newest services at the library—**Estante Infinito** (*The Infinite Shelf*), a Spanish language video streaming application. Thousands of Spanish language movies, television shows, and live performances are available for mobile and online access.



Estante  
Infinito



Estante Infinito includes a separate Kids Zone, *Estante Infinito Zona Infantil*, a special collection of Spanish language movies and programs from Latin America and Spain for children.

Estante Infinito can be accessed with a desktop or laptop computer via web browser at <https://estanteinfinito.com/>

For tablets and mobile devices, the Estante Infinito mobile app can be found in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

For English and Spanish speakers of all ages and interests, an incredible new world of viewing possibilities awaits with Estante Infinito, Kanopy, and your library card.





# Programs & Outreach Report

Tiffany Flores, Programs and Outreach Librarian

In May, the Regional Library celebrated Children's Book Week by hosting this year's featured author Julie Flett at Story Time with free bookmarks and activity sheets. The patrons very much enjoyed this Story Time. This month's STEM program, Marble Mazes, was also well attended. The kids enjoyed designing and building their mazes and exploring the magnetic marble mazes in the Kid's Program Room. Additionally, Teen Nights have seen steady participation for the program. At Craft Night, they made a variety of pixel art designs with Perler beads which were so popular, they want them more often. Finally, the Regional Library hosted the 'Baby Safety Event' and invited local organizations to come in and provide resources and information about baby safety. Participants were able to engage with resources and receive free baby care supplies. Thank you to our community partners.



Outreach season is officially in action! This month, the library attended three outreach events. Heritage Cener staff, Jazmine Collins and Luke Kelly, participated in two local history events which had a total of 250 participants. Tiffany attended the "Flipping the Switch on Aging" event hosted by Accomack County Parks and Recreation at the



Chincoteague Community Center. This event was easily attended by 250 enthusiastic elderly who were more than happy to see the library and take resources and books. Additionally, Tiffany was able to tour the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport with the Virginia Spaceport Authority thanks to the wonderful work of Teresa Wright at Chincoteague Island Library. This was a wonderful opportunity to tour one of the amazing resources on the Shore and see what they do. Tiffany was also able to make connections for future programming endeavors.

SummerFest is merely days away! On June 14<sup>th</sup> the Regional Library will be hosting their second annual SummerFest at Eastern Shore Community College from 10 am to 2 pm. Tiffany has been busy planning, purchasing, and preparing everything for an incredible summer day. There will be music, balloon animals, face painting, community vendors, games, food, and summer reading sign-up. Families are encouraged to come out and join the fun! Rodney Raptors will be performing at 11 am. This year's summer reading theme is "Color Our World" which encourages kids to be creative and express themselves. Tiffany is super excited for all the art and creative programs the library will have on the calendar.





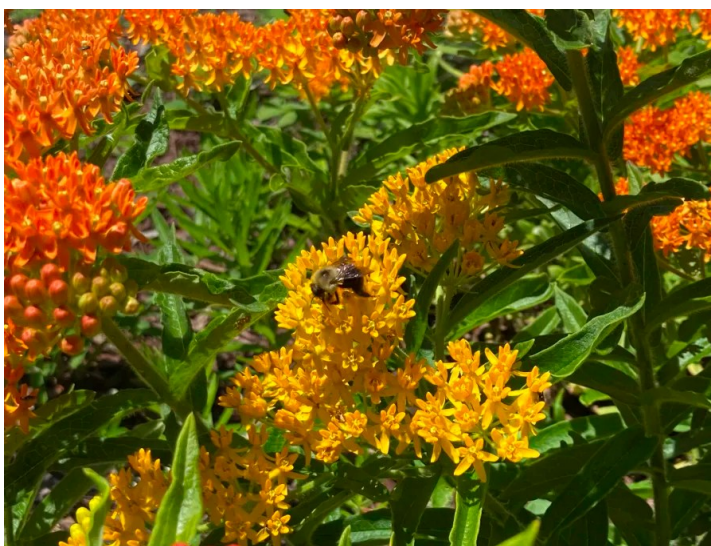
# Northampton Free Library

Connor BuYrn, Branch Manager



April showers brought May flowers at Northampton Free Library, dressing up the Master Gardeners' pollinator garden with orange and yellow blooms. Inspired by the season, adult patrons were invited to the library on May 15th to make their own floral bookmarks using pressed flowers. Kid's programs for May included the evening story-time on May 6th and a marble maze STEM activity on May 22nd. Tech Help continued to be offered on demand on every Wednesday.

In other news, Northampton Free Library's regular seasonal residents—a pair of barn swallows – returned to raise another brood. Library patrons are being greeted at the entrance by five hungry chicks.



On-demand tech help at Northampton Free Library will continue to be offered all day long on every Wednesday through the month of June. On Thursday, June 5th, library staff will host our monthly children's story time and snack starting at 4:30 PM. This month's story will be about Bigfoot! No sign-up in advance is required. Adult patrons are invited back the following Thursday, June 12th to take part in June's adult craft starting at 6:00 PM. We're celebrating the start of beach season with a seashell pendant craft. This program is free, but sign-up in advance will be required. Finally, Northampton Free Library will host a birdhouse painting craft for kids on Thursday, June 26th starting at 6:00 PM. No sign-up is required.

As always, Northampton Free Library's programs are free and open to the public. Keep an eye on the Northampton Free Library Facebook page or ask at the front desk for more information.

Northampton Free Library will be closed on Saturday, June 14th while staff host our annual Summerfest event at Eastern Shore Community College. The event is fun and free, so come see us there!

The library will also be closed all day on Tuesday, June 17th for staff in-service training and Thursday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.





# Cape Charles Memorial Library

Sharon Silvey, Library Manager



This May we celebrated Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AANHPI) at Cape Charles Memorial Library. A book display featured books written by AANHPI authors and a second display allowed patrons to sample snacks and treats from different AANHPI countries. Guests were encouraged to sample a treat and answer a trivia question for additional goodies. Favorite items included jelly sticks from Taiwan, Plumeria flower hair clips from Hawaii and Kopiko brown coffee from Indonesia.

CCML took time to acknowledge Mental Health Awareness Month, a time to promote support, reduce stigma and raise awareness about mental health. Textured sensory stickers (to help reduce stress/anxiety) and rubber bracelets with positive affirmations were given away.



For "National Police Week", we invited a few officers from the Cape Charles Police Department to story time. The children were thrilled to have the officers attend and read with them.

This past month all staff have been working non-stop preparing for our summer programs. We're excited to have The Barefoot Puppets perform, The Living Museum from Newport News will be bringing some cute critters to learn about, and kids can learn to juggle with Cascading Carlos! Following the summer reading theme, "Color Your World", we are having a tie-dye program, a glow party and lots of fun art activities. Registration for Cape Charles Memorial Library's reading program begins at our Summer Kick-off Event on June 18 from 10am until 12 noon. Participants can register for the reading program and visit many of our community's non-traditional educators (just to name a few -



the Nature Conservancy, Kiptopeke State Park, 4-H and Northampton YMCA). Registrants will receive a ticket to visit Peach Beach Shave Ice, Ryan the Balloon Guy or Emily's Fun Faces. We hope to see you!

Continued...



CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY



# SUMMER READING REGISTRATION KICK-OFF

COLOR OUR WORLD!

JUNE 18, 2025  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join us and our community partners in  
kicking off our  
Summer Reading Program!  
Register, learn about other summer  
events, and have fun!



EMILY'S FUN FACES

KIPTOPEKE STATE PARK

VA250.ORG

VIMS





# Chincoteague Island Library

Linda Ryan, for the Board of Directors



Patrons, friends, and visitors kept our library staff and volunteers very busy this month. The Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company held a parade to celebrate 100 years of serving our community. Our window display included an authentic fire fighters outfit. The reviewing stand was held on the library's front porch, and later the judges came into the library to choose the winners in the various categories. Our library board is proud to fulfill the library's role in serving as an anchor for the historic downtown district and proud to be an active participant in Island community events.



**Adult Programs:** The Island Readers' Book Club met May 20 and enjoyed a lively discussion about A Psalm for the Wild Built by Becky Chambers. In June, they will be discuss Anxious People by Frederik Bachman.

Nancys' Book Club, named for its founders, met Thursday morning May 8 to discuss books about Mythology. Next month, the topic for discussion will be the retelling of a classic book (example: Huckleberry Finn/James or David Copperfield/Demon Copperhead).

The Chincoteague Island Library presented its 1st Annual Island Writers' Showcase on May 4 at the Chincoteague Island Hampton Inn & Suites.



Continued...



# Chincoteague Island Library

Linda Ryan, for the Board of Directors



**Scholarship Program:** Congratulations to Olivia Mason, recipient of the Chincoteague Island Library \$1,000 scholarship. The library is proud to support Chincoteague High School graduates through this scholarship program. Olivia, a Class of 2025 graduate, is pictured with Diane Fisher, library board member and coordinator of this year's scholarship.

**Tales 4 Tots Storytime:** The highlight of the spring program was the boat ride generously given by Captain Scott Landolt of Daisey's Island Cruises on May 22. Thirty children came into the library to stretch, sing, and listen to stories read by volunteer, Aaron Reames. Other themes for the May programs were flowers, Mother's Day, and Pete the Cat. The winter/spring program finished on May 29 with a picnic and parade. Tales 4 Tots and Young Explorers will resume in July. The Summer Reading Challenge will run for 8 weeks from June 13 through August 8.



**Spaceport Authority Trip:** Back by popular demand, the Spaceport Authority will once again host a visit to their complex. The trip is scheduled for next month. We are so appreciative of our neighbors who continue to support and encourage our library programs.

**Maintenance and Purchases:** The front windows of the library were glazed and painted by Dino Johnson in May. We are so grateful for Donnie Thornton who continues to maintain our grounds.

As a result of many generous donation in memory of former library volunteer, Gerry Ryan, the Board is planning to purchase a new Ricoh printer/copier for staff, volunteers and the public. The new printer will replace the Savin printer/copier which was purchased many years ago.