Around the State

NCLBPH: Cabarrus Magazine posted an interview with author Randell Jones about a presentation he made to the Concord Friends of the Library. During the interview, Mr. Jones mentioned that the NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped had recorded his book as an audio book in 2016 and that it was the first North Carolina book to be submitted to and accepted for the BARD service.

Polk County is helping to advertise the services of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped! Check out the neat literature stand they created to display LBPH brochures!
The podcast of LBPH’s January VIP book discussion, The Girl From the Train, has reached 494 people on Facebook and has been shared twice.

Public Library Directors were provided access to a new skill-building resource named **MindTools.** This resource includes tools to help Library Staff become more effective. In the first week of access, 43 public library directors and staff used the tool and viewed 596 web pages! The Mind Tools rep stated, “This far, far above the average for usage.” Go Librarians!

**What’s new?**

**Visiting librarians from Uzbekistan**

On January 29, six librarians from Uzbekistan visited and toured the State Library and the State Archives. They also visited other triangle libraries during their stay.
Chat reference is a popular service in NCpedia!
On January 16th, the Government & Heritage Library started answering reference inquiries via online chat embedded in the NCpedia website. It has been wildly popular! Many inquiries come from students working on North Carolina related projects, but some college students and other researchers have also connected with us via the service. Between January 16 – January 31, we chatted with 789 people!

Titles of note in the Government & Heritage Library collection:

- Thundersticks: Firearms and the Violent Transformation of Native America
- Southern Mercy: Empire and American Civilization in Juvenile Reform, 1890-1944
- I Remain Yours: Common Lives in Civil War Letters
- A Promising Problem: The New Chicana/o History
- Jim Crow Terminals: The Desegregation of American Airports
- The Ashley Cooper Plan: The Founding of Carolina and the Origins of Southern Political Culture

Featured new North Carolina state government publications!

- North Carolina Safer Syringe Initiative: Annual Reporting Summary - Programs established under the SEP (syringe exchange program) law are required to participate in an annual reporting process to share data on program services and impact.
- North Carolina’s First People – A brochure from the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs with update information on North Carolina’s Indian people, organizations and attractions.
**Staff Out and About**

**Government & Heritage Library** had a pop-up library at the African American Cultural Celebration on January 27th at the NC Museum of History! We answered reference questions, registered attendees for library cards, and met some wonderful people with whom we hope to work with on future initiatives!

**Library Development:** Jasmine Rockwell (Youth Services Consultant), Amanda Johnson (Data Analysis & Communications Consultant) and Jeffrey Hamilton (Adult Services Consultant) traveled to Connecticut to participate in the EXCITE! **Transformation for Libraries** project. EXCITE! is an intensive team-based experiential learning program that teaches collaboration and innovation skills that will result in programs and services responsive to community input and demonstrated needs, that lead to cultural change at libraries, and that sustain project impact. Check out the video at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IAxeopLKQ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IAxeopLKQ4).

**Compliments and Kudos!**

“I'm amazed there's actually someone somewhere that cares about this! Who are you, mysterious Hero of History?” -- An online chat patron to Jen Hanft from the Government & Heritage Library.

Lauren Clossey, Continuing Education Consultant, visited Mauney Memorial Library. Sharon Stack, Library Director, stated, “We enjoyed your visit so much! ...I am so appreciative of LSTA funds. This is the way that I have made the library grow!"

On NC Cardinal's Student Access program which links library resources to student ID cards: “Just found the first child in our Student Access ranks on our Patron database! His mother called and asked about getting him a library card and we told her about the Student Access that would soon be available and when we looked up his name he was already there under his student ID. So cool!” (From Carol Wilson, Library Director, Cleveland County Library System)

**Social media**

**NCLBPH:** Users – 14 Page views – 246  
**Top 3 posts:**  
10 Most Wanted Book - January 2018 - 16 views  
NCLBPH Closed because of Inclement Weather - 12 views
VIP Book Club Podcast - The Girl from the Train - 10 views

**LD Blog:**
Sessions: 1,165, Users: 949, Page Views: 3,369

Top Posts: