

# SMITHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

JANUARY 2023

## Message From the Smithfield Library Director

2022 marked 100 years of library services in the Smithfield community. It was a year of celebration & changes and 2023 is promising to be just as exciting. Marilyn Benavides, Smithfield Library Director, has retired after many years with the library and we thank her for her dedicated service to the community. Many of you may have noticed that 'Miss Karen', the children's librarian, is not often seen at her desk these days. I have been appointed as the library's interim director and am working in an administrative role as well as continuing as the children's services librarian. As your interim library director, I would like to express my excitement to serve our wonderful community. I have several goals for my time in as director and look forward to the next six months.

We've brought in new staff members to help create a variety of dynamic library programming for all ages. Our new teen & adult programming librarians are working on some amazing library activities and I will be continuing our robust storytime program, while also adding new activities for children in the library.

Along with these new programs we will be expanding our circulating collections. Expect to see new books, authors & genres in the library. We are currently re-vamping our existing movie collection and adding more popular and family films. Watch for a live DVD unboxing on our social media this month and see some of the new movies coming to our shelves!

As we consider what changes to make at the library, we want to hear from you. We have an online survey which asks what you want to see in the library. What kinds of books should we purchase? What kinds of activities would you want to attend? What does our facility need to serve you better? It's quick and we'd love to get your feedback. [CLICK HERE FOR SURVEY](#)

With changes in mind, we are adding some new programs to our current lineup and invite you to visit the library and participate in these events. What better way to begin the new year than with a new hobby. Come meet a variety of skilled hobbyists at our **Speed Date a Hobby** event on Thursday, January 26 at 6:00 pm. We are starting a **Teen Advisory Guild** to help plan teen activities in the library. The first meeting will be Saturday, January 21 at 1 pm. Any teen interested in volunteering and helping promote and advocate for teens in the library, is invited. We are beginning a weekly drop-in program, **Play-doh Play Date** for children and their caregivers to engage in pre-literacy play together every Monday at 1:00 pm. A new **Mental Health Skills Class** begins Tuesday, January 24 from 7-8:30 with licensed therapist Pamela Huckaby. These classes will be held twice monthly and cover a variety of topics. I'd like to welcome everyone to come and check out what your public library has to offer you!

Sincerely,

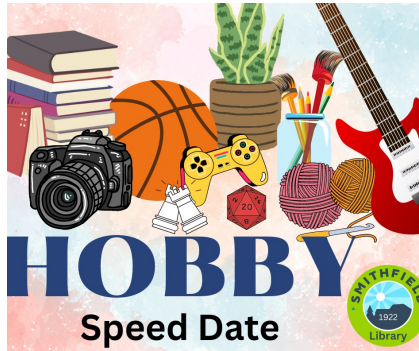
Karen Bowling (aka Miss Karen)



- **Family Movie: The Bad Guys:** Tuesday, Jan 3 at 4:00 pm
- **PreSchool Storytimes:** Mon/Tues at 11:15 am \*begins Jan 9
- **Toddler Times:** Wed/Thurs at 11:15 am \*begins Jan 11
- **Book Babies:** Thursdays at 1:00 pm \*begins Jan 1
- **Play-Doh Play Date:** Mondays at 1:00 pm
- **Dungeons & Dragons:** Wednesdays, 5-7 pm

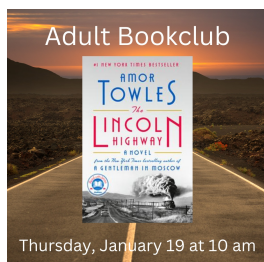
- **Adult Book Club:** Thursday, Jan 19 at 10:00 am
- **Fidgety Fingers (Kids Craft Club):** Thursday, Jan 19 at 4:00 pm
- **Teen Advisory Guild:** Saturday, Jan 21 at 1:00 pm
- **Mental Health Life Skills Class:** Tuesday, Jan 24, 7-8:30 pm
- **Speed Date a Hobby:** Thursday, Jan 26 at 6:00 pm
- **Snack in the Stacks (Teen Book Talk):** Saturday, Jan 28 at 1:00 pm

[Visit our website](#) or contact the library for more information about any of these upcoming library programs.



## Speed Date with a Hobby

A new year is the perfect opportunity to try on a new skill! Join us Thursday, January 26 at 6 pm. We'll have skilled hobbyists here to show you what they do and how you can do it too! From furniture refinishing to fly tying to hand lettering... we want to help you meet your new hobby!



### Adult Book Club

We are reading Amor Towles' novel, **The Lincoln Highway** this month for bookclub. Pick up copies of the book at the library and join us Thursday, Jan 19 at 10 am to discuss this wonderful story.



### Teen Dungeons & Dragons Club

Teens & tweens are invited to join us every Wednesday, 5 -7 pm, for D&D at the library. No experience necessary to play.

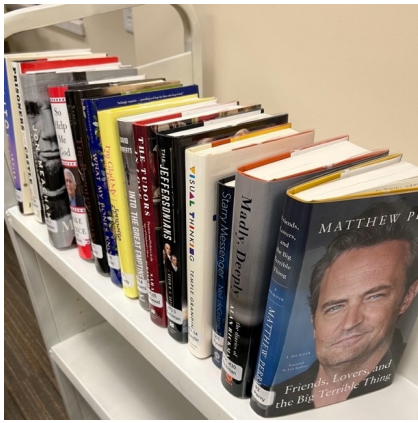


### Winter Storytimes

Winter storytimes with Miss Karen begin January 9 at the library. No registration required to attend.

## New Non-Fiction @ the Library

We've added **a lot** of new adult non-fiction titles to our collection this month, including many current and best-selling biographies & memoirs. Check out the display in the lobby and pick out your next great read!



**The OverDrive App**  
will be discontinued  
during January 2023.



**Download the  
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**Smithfield Public Library**

Smithfield Public Library, 25 North Main, 84335, Smithfield

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