

## PRESS RELEASE

### **WRL Creates Free, High-Speed Wi-Fi Zone at Abram Frink Jr. Community Center**

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Feb. 2, 2022) – Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) has partnered with James City County Parks and Recreation to launch a free high-speed Wi-Fi zone in the Grove community.

The new high-speed Wi-Fi zone, located in and around the Abram Frink Jr. Community Center, is funded by WRL donors Sandy and Steve Menaquale with a matching grant they obtained from Eli Lilly and Company Foundation. The zone creates free public access around the entire building area, inside and out, including all outdoor recreation areas.

“Many families lack reliable, high-speed internet access, and the library is committed to working with our partners to help address digital access inequities in our area,” said Williamsburg Regional Library Director Betsy Fowler. “This new free, high-speed Wi-Fi zone builds upon our other access initiatives including providing mobile hotspots on our Bookmobile, offering portable Wi-Fi hotspots for checkout, and boosting Wi-Fi access points at WRL buildings.



“WRL is grateful to Sandy and Steve Menaquale for their dedication to helping the residents of Grove get internet access, and we are grateful to the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation who robustly support our digital access projects.”

The Menaquales are long-time Historic Triangle residents who are working to improve access to high-speed internet to people in the Grove community.

“In times of trouble, like those we have all experienced with COVID, difficulties are multiplied for people in underserved communities,” Sandy Menaquale said. “Connecting online for work or school is easy for some, but not for those without access to the internet. We are committed to helping the library provide that service.”

“We feel fortunate in our lives, which makes it even more important to us to give back to the community in a tangible way,” said Steve Menaquale. “We understand that there is this significant need in the

community, and we want to do what we can to help.”

**Photo courtesy of Sandy and Steve Menaquale; full-sized image available upon request.**

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*The Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) is an award-winning regional library system that consists of the Williamsburg Library on Scotland St. in Williamsburg, the James City County Library on Croaker Rd. in James City County, the Stryker Center on N. Boundary St. in Williamsburg, and its Mobile Library Services vehicles. The WRL service area includes the City of Williamsburg, James City County, and York County.*

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