

# *The Bookmark*

NEWSLETTER OF SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Vol. XXIX No. 12

February 2010

## **STATISTICALLY SPEAKING**

Circulation for the library system totaled 39,688 items in January. A total of 977 library cards were issued during the same month, and 37,397 people visited our library facilities.



## **FRIENDS BOOK SALE A SUCCESS DESPITE THE WEATHER**

The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library book sale, January 29-31, generated over \$31,000. This is the second highest total in the history of the book sale and is remarkable in light of the weather. Snow, ice, and sleet on Saturday, January 30, made it nearly impossible for book buyers to get to the Greenville Convention Center for the sale. However, the other days of the sale exceeded previous totals and saved the day. A special thanks to all the volunteers who worked during the sale despite very difficult circumstances.

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## ***Staff Birthdays***

***L'naiya Bailey - February 27***

***Shirley Nett - February 27***

***Linda Carr - March 6***

***Desta Tillery - March 14***

***Janie Fields - March 19***

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## **NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR WILLIE NELMS**

Following up on last month's column about my predictions made ten years ago about the library system, how did I do? Here's a brief summary. In February 2000, I predicted 400,000 visitors to the library in ten years. Last year we had more than 500,000 visitors. Ten years ago, I predicted at least two new service facilities. We replaced the existing library in Winterville and doubled the size of Carver. I said circulation would exceed 600,000. We should approach this goal in 2010. The library will have an endowment of \$1,000,000. We are not even close to this mark. Videocassettes will be replaced by DVDs. This happened. The number of registered borrowers will exceed 42,000. We currently have over 50,000 registrants. We will introduce the use of ebooks, but books on paper will remain the primary basis of the library's holdings. This is true. The library did win two state awards for its buildings as predicted. Story hours still remain as popular in 2010 as they were in 2000. Members in the Friends of the Library were predicted to exceed 300. The largest number of Friends members we have had in the past years is 222.

Next month, my predictions for the next ten years. Stay tuned.

## **IN DEMAND**

Following are some of the books that have been most in demand among adult patrons at the main library during the past month.

### ***SOUTH OF BROAD***

by Pat Conroy

### ***U IS FOR UNDERTOW***

by Sue Grafton

### ***FORD COUNTY***

by John Grisham

### ***THE CONVERSATION***

by Harper Hill

### ***ACT LIKE A LADY, THINK LIKE A MAN***

by Steve Harvey

### ***DEEPER THAN THE DEAD***

by Tami Hoag

### ***GOING ROGUE***

by Sarah Palin

### ***I, ALEX CROSS***

by James Patterson

### ***KINDRED IN DEATH***

by J. D. Robb

### ***PUSH***

by Sapphire

### ***THE LOVELY BONES***

by Alice Sebold

### ***DEAR JOHN***

by Nicholas Sparks

### ***THE LAST SONG***

by Nicholas Sparks

## **SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY PUBLIC LIBRARY QUIZ BOWL**

Congratulations to coach Will Tyer and the team from Ayden-Grifton High School, winners of the 2010 Sheppard Memorial Library Public Library Quiz Bowl held Saturday, February 6, at Sheppard Memorial Library.

Thanks to all the teams and coaches for participating in the event and to the moderator, judges, scorekeepers, and Sheppard Library staff members who assisted with the competition.

The Ayden-Grifton team advances to the Eastern North Carolina Regional Quiz Bowl competition, sponsored by Sheppard Memorial Library, on Saturday, March 20, at 10:00 a.m. at the main library. Call the library at 329-4376 for more information.

## **EAST BRANCH LIBRARY**

Story hour is held every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

Many of the books that have now been made into movies are available at the branch. *ALICE IN WONDERLAND* by Lewis Carroll, *DIARY OF A WIMPY KID* by Jeff Kinney, *SHUTTER ISLAND* by Dennis Lehane, *THE LIGHTNING THIEF* (Percy Jackson and the Olympians series) by Rick Riordan, *THE LOVELY BONES* by Alice Sebold, *DEAR JOHN* and *THE LAST SONG* by Nicholas Sparks, as well as Sherlock Holmes books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle may be checked out.



The most popular fiction titles among adult patrons have included *UNFINISHED DESIRES* by Gail Godwin, *THE WORST CASE* by James Patterson and Michael Ledwidge, and *THE HELP* by Kathryn Stockett.

## **JUVENILE OUTREACH**

By the end of February the outreach librarian will have visited all the child care centers with the second series of story programs, "What to Wear?"

The children have enjoyed stories about winter clothes, a poem about getting dressed, and a dancing song. They enjoyed Wendy Mould's book *ANTS IN MY PANTS* about a little boy who keeps finding animals in his clothes.



They have also watched the filmstrip of Tomie dePaola's book *CHARLIE NEEDS A CLOAK* in which Charlie makes his own cloak. Also in February, during home school story hour, we will read stories and do activities focusing on Valentine's Day.

## **CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

The Children's Library staff is busy assisting students and adults looking for biographies of famous African Americans and other information for assignments and also helping students working on science and history projects. The staff has welcomed several new families who have recently moved to Greenville.

Valentine's Day was celebrated with favorite books and poems about valentines during preschool story hour. The children learned that hugs and kisses make great valentine gifts for family.

***Special Program in the  
Children's Library***

***Bedtime Story Hour***

***Thursday, February 25, 7:00 p.m.***

***(for families with children up to age 10)***

## **CARVER BRANCH LIBRARY**

The public is invited to attend the first 2010 Annual Black History Quiz Bowl sponsored by Iota Kappa Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; 100 Black Men of Eastern North Carolina; the Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library and George Washington Carver Library. This year's event will begin at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, February 20, at Philippi Church of Christ, 3760 Philippi Drive, Greenville.

During February, the preschool story hour theme will center on African Americans and the contributions they made.

Preschool story hour is held every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. for children ages 3-5.

Adult patrons are requesting *DREAMS THAT WON'T LET GO* by Stacy Hawkins Adams, *A WOMAN'S WORTH* by Nikita Lynette Nichols, *BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU PRAY FOR* by Kimberla Lawson Roby, and *BIG GIRLS DO CRY* by Carl Weber.



## **N.C. CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD**

Teachers at several area schools have checked out the books nominated for the N.C. Children's Book Award in preparation for students voting for the favorite picture and chapter book in our state. Any kindergarten through sixth-grade student who has read at least five of the nominated titles can vote at their school during March. The winners will be announced during National Library Week, April 11-17. This year the theme is **Communities thrive @ your library.**

## ***WINTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY***

The last scheduled program for R.E.A.D was held Saturday, February 13, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Valentine pups heard children read their favorite stories.

Preschool/toddler storytime has covered the topics of winter cold, hibernation and the winter Olympics. Valentine stories and "Where is" stories will also be covered this month.

Adult readers are requesting *THE LOST SYMBOL* by Dan Brown, *DEEPER THAN THE DEAD* by Tami Hoag, and *THE LAST SONG* by Nicholas Sparks.

## ***BLOUNT (BETHEL) LIBRARY***

The library is open again after a problem with the heating system. Patrons were not charged overdue fines for the days the library was closed.

Adult patrons are enjoying new and popular books such as *U IS FOR UNDERTOW* by Sue Grafton, *THE WOLF AT THE DOOR* by Jack Higgins, and *KINDRED IN DEATH* by J.D. Robb.