

The Bookmark

NEWSLETTER OF SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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July 2010

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Circulation for the library system totaled 63,219 items in June. This is the second busiest June in the history of the library system, exceeded only by the same month of 2009 when circulation totaled 64,109 items.

FRIENDS PAPERBACK BOOK SALE

The sixth annual paperback book sale sponsored by the Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library will be held on Saturday, September 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., in the meeting rooms at the main library, 530 S. Evans Street, Greenville. This year's sale will feature a large number of videotapes, music tapes, and books-on-tape for sale along with hundreds of good quality paperbacks on a variety of topics and vinyl records. All items will be priced at 50¢ each.

LIBRARY IS AWARDED LSTA GRANT

Sheppard Memorial Library has been awarded a \$24,720 Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Basic Equipment Grant for the purchase of new children's computers at the main library and branches. This grant will buy 10 new machines with appropriate software to replace computers originally provided by funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Funds needed to match the grant were provided by the Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DIRECTOR

In May 1982 I wrote the first of these columns for *The Bookmark*, exactly 15 months after the start of this newsletter. Today, I write my last one. Over the past 29+ years I have opined about the state of our library system, the status of libraries in general, and the principles that are at the heart of the public library. I've seen lots of changes in the field, but in my opinion the overriding tenets of the public library remain as strong today as they did three decades ago. In many ways, the importance of the public library, its influence on the community, and its value to the community are probably more important now than they have ever been. Certainly, the use of this public library demonstrates its value to this community. Despite many challenges over the years, I remain as optimistic about the public library as ever, and I am glad that I got a chance to serve during this time when our ability to perform our service to the public is at an all-time high. Now it is time for others to take up that leadership role. I am glad to see that Greg Needham will follow me as Director of Sheppard Memorial Library. I have known Greg for many years, and I know he will be an outstanding leader for Sheppard Memorial Library. As for me, I'm looking forward to being a patron of the library and getting to use all of the great services we have developed over the years.

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.

DELIVER US FROM EVIL
by David Baldacci

SPOKEN FROM THE HEART
by Laura Bush

THE SHADOW OF YOUR SMILE
by Mary Higgins Clark

WHIPLASH
by Catherine Coulter

SIZZLING SIXTEEN
by Janet Evanovich

LOWCOUNTRY SUMMER
by Dorothea Benton Frank

ICE COLD
by Tess Gerritsen

EAT PRAY LOVE
by Elizabeth Gilbert

BULLET
by Laurell K. Hamilton

WINTER GARDEN
by Kristin Hannah

DEAD IN THE FAMILY
by Charlaine Harris

TAKE FOUR
by Karen Kingsbury

THE GIRL WHO KICKED THE HORNET'S NEST
by Stieg Larsson

THE 9TH JUDGMENT
by James Patterson & Maxine Paetro

SAVOR THE MOMENT
by Nora Roberts

THE HELP
by Kathryn Stockett

LUCID INTERVALS
by Stuart Woods



Staff Birthdays

Gladys Edwards - July 24

Danisha Williams - July 25

Lisa Williams - August 1



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Children participating in the 2010 summer reading program use their imagination as they explore the world of water while listening to books being read during story hours. All the branches of Sheppard Memorial Library offer age-appropriate story hours for children ages three through twelve. Although some children just come for the story hours, most are keeping a reading record and earning prizes. They are encouraged to set their own reading goals and have successfully completed the reading program when they reach the 10-point level to receive an official summer reading certificate.

The summer reading finale will be at River Park North on Tuesday, August 3, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The whole family is invited to come see the aquarium and the touch tank. Children may pick up their reading folder and T-shirt. There will be outdoor water activities. It will be a celebration.



EAST BRANCH LIBRARY

During the summer, there are always new faces at the library. With more time for reading, young people are busily checking out juvenile and young adult fiction books.

For students who want to get an early start, the branch has pulled the titles for area high schools' required summer reading. Students may ask for the books at the circulation desk. The branch also has the elementary and middle school Battle of the Books titles for those who wish to get a head start on their reading.

The most popular books among adult patrons during the past month have included *THE PACIFIC* by Hugh Ambrose, *LOWCOUNTRY SUMMER* by Dorothea Benton Frank, *THE GIRL WHO KICKED THE HORNET'S NEST* by Stieg Larsson, *THE RULE OF NINE* by Steve Martini, *PRIVATE* by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro, and *THE LAST STAND* by Nat Philbrick.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Children may still join a summer reading club, keep a personal reading record, and earn prizes by reading or listening to library books read aloud. The two clubs are the Daring Divers and the Super Surfers. To see how many children are interested in the summer reading program, come see all of the colorful nametags displayed on the bulletin boards.

Toddler story hour and preschool story hour are offered twice a week this summer. There is an additional preschool story hour just for child care groups to attend. Even with the extra story times, many story hours are crowded. New groups are still registering for the school-age programs which are offered three times a week. Children of all ages are having fun as they ride the reading wave at Sheppard Memorial Library.

CARVER BRANCH LIBRARY

We're having lots of fun at the Carver Branch Library during the summer reading program. The kids have enjoyed fishy stories and fun activities. They have also enjoyed several programs this month including "Water Safety" by Leigh Pigott, a life guard from the Aquatics & Fitness Center; "What Do You Know About H₂O" by Sharon Daughtridge from the Water Treatment Plant; and "Animals Around the River" by Howard Vainwright from River Park North.

For more information about our school-age programs, please call 329-4583.

Preschool story hour for children ages 3-5 is on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:45 a.m.

Adult patrons are requesting *SONG OF SOLOMON* by Kendra Norman-Bellamy, *THE TRUTH IS THE LIGHT* by Vanessa Davis Griggs, *FORGIVEN* by Vanessa Miller, and *SAMSON* by Jacquelin Thomas.



JUVENILE OUTREACH

The Juvenile Outreach Librarian has been busy bringing story times to preschoolers in the Children's Library and to children at several camps. The theme for this summer is **Make a Splash—Read!** There have been story times about rain, bath time, boats, and the ocean. There will also be story times covering pirates, rivers, and more! The children have made their own small boats, books, and starfish masks. They have also been learning songs, finger plays, and dancing. Book boxes also continue to go out to participating preschools during the summer.

WINTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

A total of 225 children have signed up for the summer reading program, and there are still two weeks to go! This sets a record for the Winterville Public Library.

Regular programs for school-age children are offered on Mondays at 11:00 a.m., and preschool/toddler programs are offered on Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Special programs have included "Water Conservation" on Monday, July 12; Ronald McDonald—"Go Active" on Wednesday, July 14; and "Water Purification" on Monday, July 19.

Adult patrons have been requesting *WHIPLASH* by Catherine Coulter, *CHELSEA CHELSEA BANG BANG* by Chelsea Handler, and *FRANKENSTEIN: LOST SOULS* by Dean Koontz.

BLOUNT (BETHEL) LIBRARY

Groups wanting to schedule a program may call 825-0782 to make arrangements. Only afternoon hours are available.

Adult patrons are requesting *SIZZLING SIXTEEN* by Janet Evanovich, *HANNAH'S LIST* by Debbie Macomber, and *DUETS* by Nora Roberts.