In April of 2013, NC LIVE celebrated its fifteenth anniversary. This fantastic resource has so much to offer, but still not everyone knows what NC LIVE is! From the New York Times to PBS videos, to e-books and full-text articles from a huge online library of newspapers and magazines, this project represents a treasure trove of information for North Carolinians. I take every opportunity to connect people with NC LIVE, and this anniversary seems a fitting moment to do so once again. Please do read the press release below prepared by NC LIVE staff to commemorate the first fifteen years, follow the links, and see what this terrific resource has to offer you! You can access NC LIVE at any of our library locations, or use your Sheppard Memorial Library card to gain remote access. You’ll be glad you did!

“This month marks NC LIVE’s fifteenth anniversary as a statewide collaborative library organization. First launched during National Library Week in 1998, NC LIVE has consistently provided online library resources and tools to patrons of North Carolina’s public and academic libraries. Today’s world of always-online smartphones and ubiquitous Wi-Fi differs greatly from the online landscape faced by North Carolina libraries in 1998 when NC LIVE was first founded. A Pew Research Center report from that year showed only 41% of American adults used the Internet, 35% used email, and only 13% had ever made an online purchase. But in 1998, librarians from North Carolina’s public and academic libraries recognized the change that the Internet represented, and worked to ensure that their communities would benefit from it. Together, these libraries created NC LIVE, enabling access to premium digital information for all of North Carolina citizens through their libraries. For the last fifteen years, North Carolina’s public and academic libraries have worked together through NC LIVE to provide the entire state with equitable access to electronic resources for all ages on topics ranging from business, careers and investing, to auto repair, health, history and genealogy. This cooperation means that library patrons from Murphy to Manteo have access to the same collection of high-quality content, from any computer with Internet access.

‘NC LIVE has increased the quality and reach of the collections of libraries statewide,’ said State Librarian Cal Shepard. ‘But above and beyond that, it has created a real community, and increased collaboration between public and academic libraries. The ‘all for one, one for all’ model prevails here in North Carolina, and I’m proud of that.’

To celebrate this accomplishment, NC LIVE created an online exhibit to celebrate fifteen years of libraries working together for their communities. The exhibit, available from http://nclive.org/15years, shares stories and memories of how different libraries from all across the state planned and created a shared digital library service for all of North Carolina. The exhibit includes video interviews with founding members, an interactive timeline, snapshots of the NC LIVE website through the years, and memories from library staff and patrons across the state who have benefited from access to NC LIVE content.”

About NC LIVE
NC LIVE is a consortium of the state’s 201 public and academic libraries dedicated to helping North Carolina libraries in their efforts to support education, enhance statewide economic development, and improve the quality of life of their communities. Through North Carolina libraries, NC LIVE offers free access to electronic resources for all ages on topics ranging from business, careers and investing, to auto repair, health, history and genealogy. NC LIVE e-books, magazines, newspapers, journals, videos, and other materials are available online from any Internet connection via North Carolina library websites, and through www.nclive.org. Contact your local public, community college, or academic library for free access to NC LIVE resources. For more information, please visit www.nclive.org.
**BOOKMOBILE NEWS**

When possible and as scheduling permits, the Pitt County Bookmobile, mobile branch of the Sheppard Memorial Library system, continues to make special visits and participate in community events via special invitation. April proved to be a highly visible month for the rolling library with special stops at Wintergreen Elementary School and the Junior Women’s Association 3rd Annual Touch-a-Truck event.

Valerie Sasser, media coordinator at Wintergreen Elementary School, greeted the “book bus” on campus Tuesday, April 16, where she had arranged for eleven kindergarten classes, one pre-K class, and nine teachers to divide into groups and tour the Bookmobile. Over 250 students were invited to board, browse, and ask questions during the two-hour visit.

Just a few days later, Saturday morning of April 27, found the Bookmobile making its third consecutive appearance at “Touch-a-Truck” in support of the Junior Women’s Association annual fund-raising event. Under a sunny blue sky with a light breeze blowing and a large crowd on hand, Bookmobile staff counted 429 adults and children who boarded the bus during the four hour event and browsed shelves, checked out books, and even some who were able to get their very first library card. Additionally, other visitors reminisced by sharing their favorite bookmobile stories from a time and years gone by.

All in all, it was a delightfully crowded day aboard Pitt County’s rolling library-on-wheels.

Attendance at or participation in special events or programming that encourage reading or promote library services and resources must be scheduled around and doable within the Bookmobile’s normal schedule of 50+ regular stops. Inquire with Bookmobile Operations if you would like to suggest an event for Bookmobile participation or attendance.

---

**Statistical snapshot:**

**April**
- 38,710 items circulated
- 700 new borrowers registered
- (60,856 total borrowers)

Public computer/Internet use
- (including wi-fi/laptop use)
- 15,536 sessions

---

**Holiday Closing**

Saturday, May 25 through Monday, May 27
PUPPET SHOW

(Left to right) Phyllis Conner, Linda McGowan, Gaye Kurmas, Amber Winstead, Mildred Elliott.

Over 800 children, parents, and teachers attended our puppet show this month. Our production of “The Frog Prince” ran from April 29 through May 2 with a total of seven performances. Many people helped with this year’s puppet show. A thank-you goes to Linda McGowan for providing musical accompaniment and special effects. Library staff members Mildred Elliott, Phyllis Conner, Gaye Kurmas, and Amber Winstead were puppeteers or acted in the production.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Dig up some fun this summer! Join the summer reading program, Dig Into Reading, to unearth a great book. Children will find buried treasure this summer as they read and attend story hours. The story hours and special events may stir children’s imagination about dinosaurs, pirates, rocks, gardens and underground animals. The program, designed to encourage the love of reading, is for children 3 to 12 years old. Registration for the summer reading program will begin Monday, June 10. There are exciting story hours planned for toddlers, preschoolers, and school-aged children. During the summer reading program, children keep a personal reading record and earn prizes by reading or by listening to library books read aloud. A special certificate of achievement is also awarded.

The kick-off event for the summer reading program will be on Tuesday, June 11, in the Children’s Library program room. Magician, Jeff Jones, will perform at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. Families, child care groups, and children ages 3–12 are invited to attend. Child care groups should call 252-329-4581 to register.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

CHILDREN’S LIBRARY

Bedtime Story Hour
Thursday, May 23, 7:00 p.m.
Families with children 10 and under.
Bring a stuffed animal.

CARVER BRANCH LIBRARY

The Carver staff is excited about the upcoming summer reading program. There will be lots of fun things for the preschool and school-age children as well as teens to do at the library. We need teen volunteers, who enjoy interacting with their peers, to spearhead our teen programs. For more information please call 252-329-4583 and ask for Mrs. Elliott.

We encourage all to stop by the library and check out the latest title by your favorite author.

EAST BRANCH LIBRARY

Story time will be on hiatus for a few weeks to prepare for the summer reading program. Weekly story times for children ages 2–kindergarten will resume on Tuesday, June 11, at 10:30 a.m. You can come to story time and listen to stories to earn credit towards summer reading prizes!

Need books or magazines to take on vacation? The East Branch Library has an ongoing book sale with paperback books for 25 cents and magazines for 10 cents. These are perfect for vacation because they don’t have to be returned, renewed, or replaced if they get wet!
WINTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

There will be no story time for a few weeks as we prepare for the summer reading program. Beginning Wednesday, June 12, at 10:30 a.m., toddler and preschool-age children and their caregivers can listen to engaging stories every week. Story time is a fantastic opportunity to introduce children to reading and language in a fun way.

Craft Supply Wish List

The East and Winterville branches are gathering craft supplies for the summer reading program. We like to recycle so we’re happy to get these “gently used” items: empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls, water bottles, leftover yarn, buttons, beads, and tissue paper from gift bags. Thank you for recycling these items to the library.

BLOUNT (BETHEL) LIBRARY

The Bethel branch may be small but it has many of the new releases, best sellers, and new DVDs that the other branches have. It also has a good selection of children’s picture books. Check it out!

June 10, 2013—August 2, 2013

Discover the wonders beneath your feet by joining the 2013 Summer Reading Program!