December is always an exciting time at the library, with the fall puppet show (Rumpelstiltskin this time), the kids making gingerbread houses in the Make and Take craft program, and other holiday programming going on. This year we have Teen/Young Adult programming getting off to a great start as well! Patrons may be having some holiday time off, and the opportunity to catch up on a good read or check out audiobooks to make travel a treat. It’s a wonderful time of year to enjoy a stack of good books! More and more people are using downloadable audiobooks in addition to books on CD, and even more people check out e-books, especially as they may now have a tablet or other mobile device to use. We know that more people will get tablets or e-readers over the holidays, and we are planning to offer instructional sessions for our patrons starting in mid-January at the main library. If you would like some help learning how to download and read our 3M Cloud Library e-books, look out for advertisements on that upcoming offering at the main library, or ask at the main library when you are here in January.

The holidays for many people are also a time when families are able to get together. That reminds me to encourage everyone to take advantage of the library’s wonderful genealogy/family history resources. It may be that you can connect with family you didn’t know you had, or just enjoy taking your family tree research to the next level. Genealogy is one of the fastest-growing areas of interest in public libraries, and it’s no wonder, with all of the new tools and resources available in addition to our vital traditional print resources. In the reference department at the main library, there are over 2,000 books on family history, local history, N.C. history, genealogical references, printed census records, historic Greenville city directories, and old Greenville phone books. Patrons also have access to over 40 genealogical quarterlies. The library has The Daily Reflector on microfilm from 1882 to the present as well, and an online archive of The Daily Reflector now spanning the last decade and a bit more. Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest are fantastic online tools, the former available only in the library; but at all of our locations, and the latter available at the library or also online from anywhere there is internet access. Our dedicated staff can introduce you to any of the resources listed above, and help you on your way to some fascinating family research. We look forward to seeing you at the library, and wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday season!
The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library annual membership drive is under way.

An application form is enclosed.

Mark your calendars!

FANCY A BRILLIANT NEW YEAR’S EVE BASH?
JOIN the party at
SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
5-8 pm on 31 December 2013
6th-12th year students are WELCOME!

Dress smart, as your favourite CHARACTER from ENGLISH LITERATURE, the TELLY, FILMS, or REAL LIFE!
Food, music, games, and toasting the New Year!
Bring your mates & we’ll see you here!
CHEERS!

The 23rd Annual
Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library
USED BOOK SALE
FEB. 7-9, 2014
303 SW GREENVILLE BLVD.
GREENVILLE CONVENTION CENTER

*Preview Sale: FEB. 6 FROM 6-8 P.M.
For members of Friends of Sheppard Memorial Library only. Membership may be purchased at the door. Per patron limit of 20 items or $40, whichever comes first.

Cash or Check only!
Proceeds benefit SML and its branches
Great prices and a wide variety of titles
Popular fiction, classics, biographies, history, cookbooks, children’s books, mysteries, DVDs, audiobooks, and more!

**Buy Day $5 per paper grocery bag

A Healthier U @ Your Library
Learn how to find health information on the Internet
Thursday, January 16th
11:00 a.m.
Free class, class size is limited. Sign up in advance.

Sign up by calling the main library at 252-329-4376.
Children’s Library

One of the best gifts parents can give to their children does not cost money. It only requires time. Read aloud to your children, no matter how old they are. The shared stories create wonderful holiday memories and may become a favorite tradition.

There is a wide selection of holiday books to choose from. Come and let the library staff assist you in finding stories the whole family will treasure.

Weekly toddler story hour will resume Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. for children 18 months–3 years old.

Weekly preschool story hour will resume Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. for children 3–5 years old.

Branch Happenings

The East Branch Library story hour program will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 10:30 a.m.

Have you missed reading your favorite bestseller? We have a collection of books on CD you can check out and listen to while traveling or commuting to work.

Visit the Carver Branch Library and check out some books, DVDs, and CDs to enjoy during the holidays.

Preschool story hour for children ages 3–5 will resume on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for story time at the Winterville Public Library on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. We invite you to stop by and browse the collection to catch up on your reading during the holidays.

Have you been to Blount (Bethel) Library lately? Come and check out the bestsellers we have available to check out. We want your input; so stop in and share your request for your favorite title.
Adult patrons are requesting

**KING AND MAXWELL**
by David Baldacci

**THE GODS OF GUILT**
by Michael Connelly

**TAKEDOWN TWENTY**
by Janet Evanovich

**ACCUSED**
by Lisa Scottoline

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**Holiday Closings**

Tuesday, December 24, 2013
through
Wednesday, December 25, 2013

and

Tuesday, December 31, 2013
(will close at 6:00 p.m.)

and

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

and

Monday, January 20, 2014