Notes and Observations from Library Director, Greg Needham

It’s hard to believe another year has come and gone! 2015-2016 was a very strong year for library use across the whole Sheppard Memorial Library system. From programming to community partnerships, I’d like to mention this year’s highlights.

This year we added a new program titled, “Baby & Me at the Library,” which promotes early literacy for birth to 18 months. With the addition of this new program, we now offer a complete array of early literacy library programs for our community. The combined results have been dramatic, with program participation of 32,795 people, up an incredible 50 percent from the year before. Kudos to our children’s staff for a job well done, and our thanks to all of the families for participating. The positive impact of reading encourages a literacy awareness domino effect from individuals to families to the communities.

Now more than ever, individuals and organizations are working together to make sure this is exactly what happens. We are very excited about the formation this past year of Pitt County’s early literacy coalition—Books From Birth of Eastern North Carolina. The Sheppard Memorial Library is a proud partner of this effort, and we will continue to do all we can to help it succeed.

One of the coalition’s early efforts has been to initiate the Imagination Library in our service area. Thousands of children (birth to five-years-old) are already registered all across Pitt County to receive one age-appropriate book per month to be delivered to their home.

Another exciting project set in motion in the 2015-2016 year involved the start of a new collaboration with the Pitt County Schools. Working together, we have been able to register all Pitt County Schools students for online borrower cards. This enables all of the students to access Sheppard Memorial Library’s wide array of online resources. As the project continues, our staff members have begun to produce instructional videos to show students how to use and get the most benefit from those e-resources. This powerful combination of access and instruction will be a wonderful help for the students, our future adults.

We remain extremely grateful for the support of our patrons and partners, as well as for the funding and support provided by all of our elected officials and local governments, and the wonderful Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library. Together, you are all making it possible for us to have the greatest possible positive impact for our community!

All the best,
Greg Needham, Library Director

CONNECT WITH SML

facebook.com/sheppardlibrary  pinterest.com/sheppardlibrary

twitter.com/SMLibrary  smlibrary.tumblr.com
STATISTICAL SNAPSHOT

Items circulated:
• August - 45,132
• Sept. - 38,405
• Oct. - 37,343

New borrowers registered:
• Aug. - 638
• Sept. - 531
• Oct. - 454

Public Computer Logins:
• Aug. - 16,836
• Sept. - 13,610
• Oct. - 11,944

Program Attendance:
• Aug. - 2,409
• Sept. - 3,162
• Oct. - 3,195

MEETINGS
• The Friends of SML: January 9, 2017
• The Board of Trustees: January 18, 2017

Both meetings are at 5:30pm and will be held in the Copeland Board Room at the Main Branch at 530 Evans Street in Greenville, NC.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS
• Christmas: December 23-27, 2016
• New Year’s: December 31, 2016-January 2, 2017
• Martin Luther King Day: January 16, 2017

Visit sheppardlibrary.org/tutorials to access free NC Live Tutorials!
CHILDREN’S LIBRARY

IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Now Available in Pitt County!

Books From Birth: Early Literacy Coalition of Eastern North Carolina and United Way of Pitt County have partnered with several community leaders to bring Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library to Pitt County!

Children enrolled in the program receive a new, high quality, developmentally appropriate book monthly in the mail from birth to age 5 at no cost to families.

Books from Birth: Early Literacy Coalition of ENC aims to provide Early Enjoyable Experiences with Books and Words for Every Baby, Every Day!

Imagination Library is for EVERY child. Enroll your infant, toddler or preschooler today by visiting www.BooksFromBirthofENC.com or by completing an enrollment form and returning it to your childcare center or United Way of Pitt County.

For more information contact Melissa Adamson at (252) 758-1604 ext. 210 or madamson@uwpcnc.org.

Winter 2016
BRANCH HAPPENINGS

EAST BRANCH
The holidays are upon us again! Please stop by the East Branch for cookbooks and a variety of holiday books to warm your hearts and make you smile! We have the classics from your childhood along with new stories to engage your imagination. Don’t forget to cozy up with a good book, dvd, or audiobook during the winter months.
Parents bring your little ones on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for our weekly Story Hour (ages 2-5). The staff at East Branch Library would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

BLOUNT LIBRARY
We are busy at the Blount (Bethel) Branch checking out our new arrivals. We invite you to stop by and pick up some of the popular titles during the holidays. Don’t forget to browse through our DVD collection, too. The Bethel Library also needs volunteers! Adults and Health Science Academy students are encouraged to apply. For more information, please call Mildred Elliott at 252-916-2834.

CARVER BRANCH
It is getting chilly outside and we are in the holiday season, so stop by the Carver Branch to check out some good books to read. We are planning for the 2017 Black History Quiz Bowl in February, so make plans to join us as a team or attendee. Stay tuned for more information! The last Preschool Story hour will be Dec. 15 and will resume on Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. There will also be a Game Day on Dec. 21 at 1:30 p.m.

WINTERVILLE BRANCH
On Tuesday, December 20th, Winterville Library will show a double feature of Pixar’s Finding Nemo & Finding Dory Starting at 3 p.m. So bring a snack and your favorite box of tissues as we enjoy these sweet tales together. Because of limited space please sign up at the Winterville Library desk.
Access hundreds of newly added e-books through OneClickDigital!

NEW AT SML!

Select Reads – Sign-up for a FREE monthly newsletter that can be customized for you and your family’s reading interests!

New Book Alerts — A free online service that showcases the newest titles purchased by the Sheppard Memorial Library! Select to receive alerts via email and/or RSS feeds. If you see a new title that you are interested in, just click “check catalog” to place a hold on the item right away.

VISIT SHEPPARDLIBRARY.ORG/SELECTREADS TO ACCESS THESE 3 SERVICES

Author Check — Create a list of your favorite authors that are currently available in the Sheppard Memorial Library catalog with Author Check. You will receive an email notice as soon as the library orders a new title by one of your authors, with a link to the catalog so you can place your own hold!
It feels good to be a Friend!

Here’s how the Friends most recently supported our library system.

The 2016 annual used-book sale exceeded $32,000 in gross sales.

A paperbacks-only book sale was held in September 2016, and generated over $2,700.

The Friends contribute to the library's programs, materials, and operations in various ways.

- They purchase prizes and fund storytellers for the Summer Reading Program.
- Our e-book collection is growing thanks to the Friends.
- They support the Public Library Quiz Bowl and the African American Heritage Quiz Bowl.
- Most recently, they voted to provide up to $20,000 to help purchase a new bookmobile.
- Our Friends financially support public library legislative efforts.
- Friends provided $21,000 to purchase early literacy materials and provide programs for babies from birth to 18 months.

Become a Friend today!

The membership year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

Check One: Member Renewal [ ] New Member [ ]

Circle or Write Salutation Preference:
Mr. [ ] Mrs. [ ] Ms. [ ]
Miss [ ] Mr. & Mrs. [ ] Dr. [ ]

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Mailing Address (Street or PO Box)
City, State, Zip
Phone/Cell Phone
Email Address

Membership Choice: (check membership type here)
- Individual $15.00 [ ]
- Family $25.00 [ ]
- Patron $50.00 [ ]
- Sponsor $75.00 [ ]
- Benefactor $100.00 [ ]
- Lifetime $1,000.00 & up [ ]

A Lifetime membership is added to The Friends Endowment Fund.
- Individual membership entitles one individual entry to the annual used book sale preview night.
- The purchase of a Family, Patron, Sponsor, Benefactor, or Lifetime membership allows two individuals entry to the annual used book sale preview night.

The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and membership contributions are fully tax deductible as allowed by law.

Make your tax-deductible check payable and mail your check and this membership form to:

The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library
530 Evans Street, Greenville, NC 27858

I'm interested in volunteering as a:
- Book Sorter [ ]
- Book Sale Helper [ ]
- Friends Board Member [ ]
- Committee Chair [ ]
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Check One:

Member Renewal
New Member

Circle or Write Salutation Preference:
Mr.
Mrs.
Ms.
Miss
Mr. & Mrs.
Dr.

PLEASE PRINT
Name
Mailing Address (Street or PO Box)
City, State, Zip
Phone/Cell Phone
Email Address

Membership Choice:
(check membership type here)

Individual $15.00
Family $25.00
Patron $50.00
Sponsor $75.00
Benefactor $100.00
Lifetime $1,000.00 & up

I’m interested in volunteering as:
Book Sorter
Book Sale Helper
Friends Board Member
Committee Chair

Upcoming Friends Events

- The Friends will conduct the annual used-book sale February 2 - 5, 2017, at the Greenville Convention Center.
- Friends members get amazing deals and great first-choice selections at the preview sale to be held February 2, at the Greenville Convention Center, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- A paperback book sale will be held in September, 2017.

The membership year begins January 1 and ends December 31. A Lifetime membership is added to The Friends Endowment Fund.

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The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library
530 Evans Street, Greenville, NC 27858

“‘Sheppard Memorial Library is grateful to the Friends of the Library for the support they provide. Their financial and personal support has allowed us to enhance our programming, augment our book budget, purchase furnishings and equipment for our facilities, and provide greater public computing access.

Members are paid back in a thousand ways every year – with children’s smiles, the sincere appreciation of the libraries’ hardworking staff, and the pure satisfaction of knowing YOU make a difference in one of the most important institutions the citizens of Greenville and Pitt County have.”

Greg Needham
Director of Libraries

The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library is a non-profit organization of citizens committed to furthering the excellence of the Sheppard Memorial Library. By joining the Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library you will be able to:

1) Support library programs and services for children, teens and adults.

2) Shop first at the Preview Sale on February 2, 2017 (open to Friends members only).

3) Enhance literacy and lifelong of learning.

4) Experience the opportunity of volunteering at a public library.

Visit bit.ly/friends2017 to download the 2017 Membership form today!
The Pitt County Bookmobile makes more than 60 different stops throughout Pitt County.

Visit WWW.SHEPPARDLIBRARY.ORG to download the schedule today!

Sheppard Memorial Library
530 Evans Street
Greenville, N.C. 27858