

The Bookmark

Newsletter of Sheppard Memorial Library

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May 2014

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR GREG NEEDHAM

As spring 2014 unfolds, there is a lot of excitement at the library! The spring puppet show was *"The Three Little Pigs,"* and I managed to catch one of the last showings. The children, their families, and caregivers had a wonderful time rooting (I couldn't resist the pun) for the pig brothers, and I think everyone was glad to see that the ending included the wolf learning a valuable lesson. Later in this edition of *The Bookmark*, you will learn about the wonderful programs we are offering for May. The summer reading program is shaping up to be truly memorable as well. A lot of work goes into planning all of the programs and bringing them to reality, and we love to see the results for our patrons!

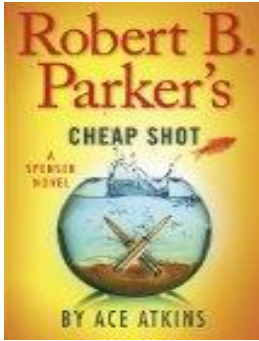
Much work is ongoing behind the scenes that is starting to show on the surface. We continue to upgrade the lighting at the main library, so lighting levels are what they should be throughout the library, and with increased efficiency we will be able to spend less on electricity and more on books, other materials, and services for our patrons. Already the lighting change in the adult nonfiction area beneath the mezzanine is complete. That area is brighter rather than dim, and soon the local history room will see the same upgrade. Also the Square (which lets us take debit and credit card payments) went live at the main library in April, and will go to all of our other locations soon. Sheppard Memorial Library opened to the public in August 1930, and in April 2014 we began accepting debit and credit card payments! The library has been here through changes in society, economy, and technology. We strive to adapt to always have the best possible positive impact for the people we serve.

Also, we have been implementing a large grant project this year that will bring RFID (radio frequency identification), which we already have at the main library, to each of the branch locations. This \$100,000 grant is made possible

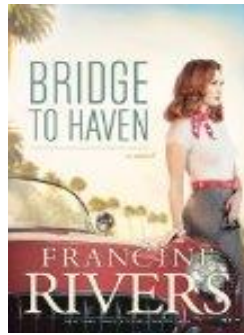
through funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources. Once again the matching funds for this grant were provided by the terrific Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library, so there was no funding burden whatsoever for local government! Soon, quicker checkout and the option of self-checkout will be a reality at the Winterville, Carver, and East branches, which will free up staff to provide other assistance for patrons. Inventory work made possible by the new technology will result in a cleaner and updated collection of books and other materials with a more-accurate catalog. Finally, security gates at the Winterville, Carver, and East branches will help to make sure materials don't go out the doors if they aren't checked out (just like at the main library).

As you can imagine, the library staff have really had to step up to the challenge of increased programming, facilities upgrades, and implementation of advanced technology. I can tell you that they have taken on the extra work with great positive attitudes, knowing what the improvements mean for all of us, patrons and staff alike. The result of all of this hard work will be more-efficient library service for our wonderful community. We have been collecting patron feedback to help us make the best improvements, and we have conducted several surveys since January. There is one more survey that is now live, and that should be the last one for a while. If you are a public library computer user, please visit www.sheppardlibrary.org and complete the Impact Survey to help us understand what computer services we need to offer, and so we can best plan for computer replacements. Thanks to everyone who completed one or more of the surveys. We also thank you for spreading the word about what the library has to offer, and for letting our elected officials know what the library means to you and our community!

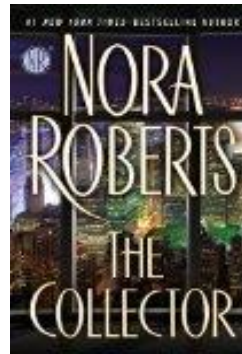
Adult patrons are requesting



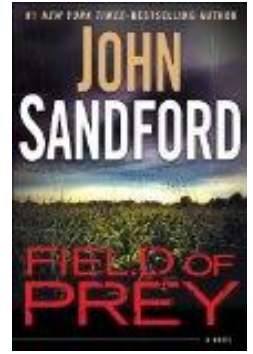
ROBERT B. PARKER'S
CHEAP SHOT by Ace Atkins



BRIDGE TO HAVEN
by Francine Rivers



THE COLLECTOR
by Nora Roberts



FIELD OF PREY
by John Sandford

Statistical snapshot: April

35,592 items circulated

**581 new borrowers
registered
(66,691 total borrowers)**

**Public computer/
Internet use
(including wi-fi/laptop use)
13,766 sessions**



(Left to right) Amber Winstead, Phyllis Conner, Mildred Elliott, Casandria Crane, Andy Crane.

Holiday Closing
Saturday, May 24
through
Monday, May 26

Approximately 700 children, parents, and teachers attended our puppet show this spring. Our production of "The Three Little Pigs" ran from May 5 through May 8 with a total of seven performances. Many people have helped with this year's puppet show. A thank-you goes to Andy Crane for providing musical accompaniment and special effects. Mildred Elliott, Phyllis Conner, Casandria Crane and Amber Winstead were puppeteers or acted in the production.

SUMMER **TEEN** READER ADVISORY MEETINGS:

**PERCY JACKSON PARTY PREP:
SATURDAY, JUNE 7 FROM 10AM-
NOON**

Grades 6-12
Newcomers
welcome!

**NERD CONTEST PREP:
SATURDAY, JULY 12
FROM 10-11AM**

**LOCK-IN PREP:
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
FROM 6-8PM**



**AS ALWAYS, WE'LL HAVE GAMES,
TREATS, & CHAT
ABOUT BOOKS!!!**

Any questions? Email me:
ccrane@sheppardlibrary.org

Don't miss the Sheppard Memorial Library

Teen Summer Reading Kick-off:

Percy Jackson Party @ River Park North!!!

Battle a Minotaur!
Ride a Pegasus!

Make Camp Half-Blood Shirts
(bring your own t-shirt)!

Capture the Flag!

Bonfire!

Pizza, Nectar, & lots of
BLUE CANDY!



Create a Weapon!
Sword and Shield
Training!

Grades 6-12
Welcome!

Saturday, June 7 from 4-8 pm
@ River Park North 1000 Mumford Road

Contact Casandria Crane with any
questions: ccrane@sheppardlibrary.org

We have a special June edition of
Sheppard Memorial Library

YA Book Club!

Join us Saturday, June 21st for

The Princess Bride

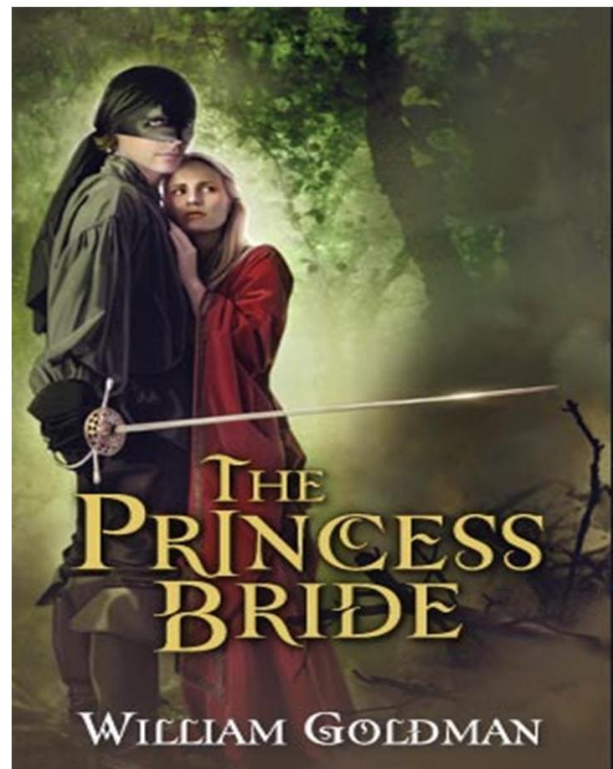
by William Goldman

We'll discuss the book from 3-4pm,
then we'll watch the movie!

Come for the book discussion or
the movie or both!

P.S. There will be treats

Any questions? Email Casandria Crane:
ccrane@sheppardlibrary.org



2014 SUMMER READING PROGRAM



June 9 – August 1

Be a super scientist this summer! Join the summer reading program, "Fizz, Boom, Read," to experiment and discover!

Children will explore many areas of science this summer as they read and attend story hours. The story hours and special events may catalyze children's knowledge of levers, wedges and other machines, how our senses work, chemistry of burps, the wonders of water, or the sound of music.

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 9. There are exciting story hours planned for toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children. In 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. Children may participate at any branch, the Children's Library, or the Bookmobile.

The kick-off event for the summer reading program will be Monday, June 23, in the Children's Library program room. Magician Rob Westcott will perform at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. Children ages 3-12 years old are invited to attend.



Page Turner Book Club

Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Dork Diaries Party
Friday, June 13, 10:00 a.m. – Noon
For children ages 8–12 years.

Special Programs in the Children's Library

Teddy Bear Picnic

Toddler Story Hour

Tuesday, May 20, 10:30 a.m.

For children ages 18 months–3 years.

Bring your favorite teddy bear.



We're Going to the Zoo

Preschool Story Hour

Wednesday May 21, 11:00 a.m.

For children ages 3–5 years.

Bring your favorite stuffed animal.



Bedtime Story Hour

Thursday, May 29, 7:00 p.m.

For families with children ages 10 and under.

Bring a stuffed animal.

Summer Story Hours in the Children's Library

Toddler Story Hour

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

For children ages 18 months to 3 years.

Preschool Story Hour

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

For children ages 3–6 years.

School-Aged Story Hour

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

For children ages 7–12 years.

Branch Happenings

East Branch Library

Weekly story time for children ages 2–kindergarten has ended for the spring and will resume on Tuesday, June 17, at 10:30 a.m. You can come to story time and listen to stories to earn credit toward summer reading prizes.

For additional information on other programs, please call Kristin Hill at 252-756-1786.

Winterville Public Library

Weekly story times will resume on Wednesday, June 18, at 10:30 a.m. Toddlers and preschoolers can listen to engaging stories each week.

For additional information on other programs, please call Kristin Hill at 252-756-1786.

Carver Branch Library

There will be lots of fun things for the preschoolers, school-aged children, and teens to do at the library during the summer. We encourage all to check out some good books and earn prizes during the summer reading program.

Story hour has ended for the spring and will resume during the summer on Thursdays. For more information about story hour and other summer programs, call 252-329-4583.

Blount (Bethel) Library

If you would like a good book to read, the Bethel Library has many of the new releases and bestsellers available to check out.

For information about programs during the summer, call 252-916-2834.