

# *The Bookmark*

## *Newsletter of Sheppard Memorial Library*

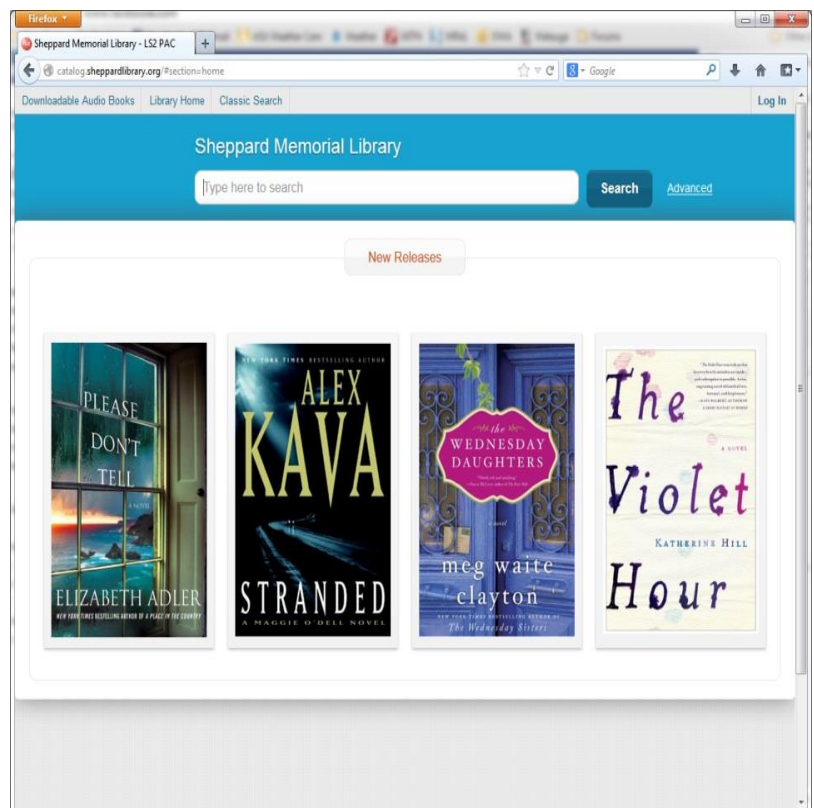
**Vol. XXXIII—No. 5**

**July 2013**

### **NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR GREG NEEDHAM**

At your public library, we are continually working to develop the best possible collection of books and other materials to meet the needs of our community. We are constantly building and maintaining the collection of traditional paper books (we even won a federal grant last year to help us put more books at each location). We are also expanding our offerings as new formats become available; our Zinio e-magazines and 3M Cloud e-books are two huge steps forward in this direction. We know that in the information age and in this knowledge-based economy in which we live, we need to have the best possible collection for you. In order for the collection to be fully used and have the maximum benefit, however, we are also constantly looking for ways to improve access to the library's collection. This requires ongoing examination of the entire library operation, so that we can remove any barriers to access and improve use of the collection in every way possible. Some things we look at may seem obvious, like having a catalog that works well and spine labeling people understand. Some things might be less apparent, like whether to separate the fiction collection by genre or not, or how to best arrange shelving so people can see and reach the books. We consider every access-related issue, however large or small, and focus our work on whatever will have the most positive impact. Please share feedback with us on this—you may think of something we haven't! Some of our recent efforts to improve access include:

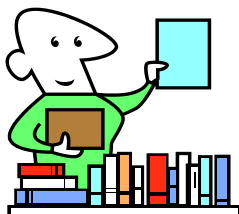
1. **Continuing upgrades to the library catalog** (we just implemented another one) intended to improve success in locating needed materials.
2. **Ongoing inventory work to reconcile the library catalog to the reality of what is on the shelves or checked out.** This process is continuing at the main library, and it will accelerate when we take our Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to all of the branch locations this year, so that we will have advanced inventory capability at all of our locations. This is fundamental library work that will really help make everything about the library experience better; and it will indeed be ongoing, so that the catalog remains in sync with reality!
3. **Creating more opportunities for expert help from library staff.** As we improve our technology to save staff time and energy (like adding the option of self-checkout), our staff members can put more of their expertise into assisting patrons find what they need.
4. **Increasing the frequency of courier runs to transit materials among our library locations.** We have recently restructured our courier service and built in flexibility, with the goal that the books and other materials will be transferred more quickly and efficiently between locations. The sooner you receive that book you have on hold, the sooner you will finish it and get it back for someone else to read!!



**Library Catalog**

# 50¢ BOOK SALE

*Sponsored by  
the Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library*



**Saturday, September 7**  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, September 8**  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.\*

\*Bag Day Sale, \$3 per plastic grocery bag of books

**Meeting Room A  
Sheppard Memorial Library  
530 Evans Street**

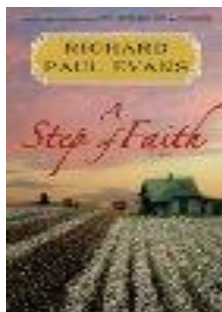
*All hardbacks, paperbacks, records, videos,  
music tapes, and audiotapes are 50¢ each.*

## **Statistical snapshot: June**

**55,321 items circulated**  
**1,234 new borrowers**  
**registered**  
**(62,676 total borrowers)**

**Public computer/  
Internet use**  
**(including wi-fi/laptop  
use)**  
**16,031 sessions**

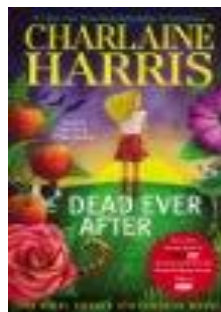
### *Adult patrons are requesting ...*



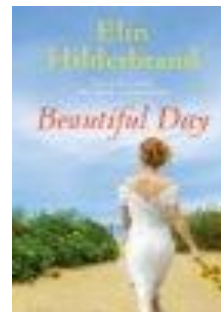
**A STEP OF FAITH**  
by Richard Paul Evans



**BEAUTIFUL REDEMPTION**  
by Kami Garcia



**DEAD EVER AFTER**  
by Charlaine Harris



**BEAUTIFUL DAY**  
by Elin Hilderbrand

## *News from our branch libraries!*

The **East Branch Library** staff invites children ages 2–kindergarten to join them each Tuesday for story time at 10:30 a.m. The summer story time program will end on Tuesday, July 30.

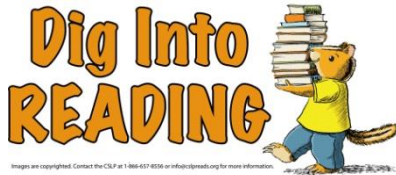


The **Winterville Public Library** staff invites children to story hour on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Story hour for the summer will end on Wednesday, July 31.

The staff at the **Carver Branch Library** has scheduled preschool and school-age programs for children. After the programs, children are digging into the collection to find good books to read. Children can earn lots of prizes while reading books of their choice during the summer reading program.

We invite you to stop by the **Blount (Bethel) Library** and check out our collection of DVDs and new releases. We're located in the old train depot in the beautiful town of Bethel.

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Children are enthusiastically participating in the 2013 Summer Reading Program at Sheppard Memorial Library. Thousands of books have been read, and hundreds of children have attended story hours. Children are having so much fun that they don't even realize how much they are learning.

The final event to honor all the children who explored how to **Dig Into Reading!** will be on Tuesday evening, August 6. Families are invited to enjoy the magic of stories by Ron Jones, a storyteller, in the Children's Library Program Room at 7:00 p.m. To celebrate, children can get a temporary tattoo sticker and may pick up their reading folder.

### CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



It is not too late—**“Go-pher” a Good Book!** There are about three more weeks of the summer reading program.

This summer children are enjoying digging in dirt and sand, watching plants grow, and learning about animals that live underground. School-age children are having fun talking like a pirate, deciding whether they prefer the top or the bottom of vegetables, and how an archeologist excavates a site. A special thank-you goes to our guest archeologist, EBea Hobgood, for sharing her expertise and artifacts. Other story hour themes include dinosaurs, mud, holes, rocks, and more. Join in all the excitement of digging into reading.



## **Summer Reading Finale**

**Ron Jones, Storyteller, 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, August 6,  
Children's Library Program Room**

## **REMINDER**

**The last day summer reading  
lists can be turned in is  
Friday, August 2,  
at 6:00 p.m.**