



**Main Library  
Catawba County Library System  
115 West C Street  
Newton, NC 28658**

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## **Ground broken for Sherrills Ford library**

It's official. The new Sherrills Ford Branch Library is under construction.

At least 100 people gathered at 9154 Sherrills Ford Road Monday to hear remarks by local dignitaries and to witness the first shovelfuls of soil turned to begin construction of the \$2.9 million facility. The site is located adjacent to the Connor family property at the intersection of Sherrills Ford Road and Highway 150.

The Sherrills Ford Branch is one of seven locations of the Catawba County Library System.

“What a remarkable day in the life of our library,” said Library Director Suzanne White. “The incredible community support for this project is a true recognition of the daily service of our library staff who uphold the promise that our community will be improved, and that young readers will have the space to learn about kings and dragons, rabbits and frogs--and all the possibilities of the universe.”

Kitty Barnes, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, echoed White's enthusiasm, noting that the project will expand the existing facility three-fold. The project has been years in the planning stages “and we do appreciate your patience,” she said.

The new brick building will replace the existing facility that opened in 1975 a short distance away. The new facility will include a meeting room to seat 80, a kitchenette, children's space with outdoor patio, a computer area, young adult section and study room. Adult-focused space will

include comfortable seating and plenty of room for browsing. The project should be completed in 14 months.

Others offering remarks were N.C. Rep. Andy Wells, County Commissioner Barbara Beatty, Library Board President Mary Bess Lawing and Linda Greenwell, past president of the Sherrills Ford Friends of the Library, who also participated in turning the first shovelfuls of dirt.

Also wielding golden shovels were County Commissioners Randy Isenhower and Dan Hunsucker and three young library fans: Carly Mundy, Preston Watson and Josiah Freitas.

The building was designed by Jenkins Peer Architects of Charlotte using input from county staff, elected officials, Friends members and members of the public. David E. Looper Company of Hickory is the general contractor.