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**Organization:** Catawba County Library System, Newton, NC

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For Immediate Release:

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## County library wants your advice

**Newton, NC, Oct. 16, 2014:**

If you've ever wanted to give the library some advice, here's your chance.

The library is undergoing a strategic planning process, and staff really wants your input.

"Getting broad input from the community is tremendously vital for shaping the future of our library," said Suzanne White, library director. "Input from residents will help guide us in planning for services that best match what our community wants and needs."

"We need advice from those who use the library as well as those who don't, so that we can make the library what our citizens think it should be," White added.

Catawba County Library System has engaged the services of Dr. Anthony Chow with Strategic Performance Systems and UNC at Greensboro to guide the process.

"We are gathering input through a variety of methods, including interviews with community leaders, and civic and non-profit stakeholders," Chow said. "We are conducting community focus groups and public forums, collecting input through an online survey, and sending a random sample mailed survey to over 1,000 citizens. We want this process to be as thorough as possible."

Public forums will be held in the evenings at various community locations, and will be announced soon.

### **A Chance to Win a Kindle Fire HD**

The library is asking citizens to take a few minutes to complete the library community survey either online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/catawbacountylibrarysurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/catawbacountylibrarysurvey) or via hard copy, which will be available at all library branches. *The survey will close on Monday November 10th at midnight.* Those who share their contact information will be automatically entered in a drawing to win a Kindle Fire HD.

The library's strategic planning project is supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act, as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

Catawba County Library, headquartered in Newton, operates facilities there as well as in Conover, Claremont, Maiden, Sherrills Ford-Terrell, St. Stephens and Southwest (Mountain View).

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**About:** *The Catawba County Library System, headquartered in Newton, NC, serves the citizens of Catawba County with seven branches throughout the county and is a year-round, integral provider of early literacy and lifelong learning. In addition to traditional services, the system provides a full complement of computer and digital services, classes and support to bridge the digital divide, empower job seekers, and enhance community quality of life and economic health.*