



The Friendly News

January, 2025



Greetings from the President

Greetings, Friends and Happy New Year!

As you will read in the pages below, YOU have just pulled off something truly worth celebrating. So before you turn your focus completely toward 2025, take a moment to congratulate yourselves on a job well done with our annual holiday family event.

To wit:

68 families registered for the event. While 9 didn't show, there were a handful of walk-ins and one wait-listed, who all were able to get a spot.

109 children attended.

Families made unforgettable memories and photos.

Library received well-deserved promotion.

(Thank you, Ellen, for keeping up with all the stats!)

Now, for the new year. We have a couple of programs ready to go and a couple more in the works. We will have a program committee meeting in just a few days. Please join us to help solidify our 2024-2025 calendar and plan for the next program year. We'll meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the small meeting room near the computers.

See you there!

Cheers, Erica

FOSFTL Calendar for 2024-2025

January 21st

Author Event with award-winning author **Austin Allran**, writer, attorney & elected official.

May 10th

2nd Annual **Family Fun Day**, a repeat of our successful 2024 event.

Date to be determined

Catawba Land Conservancy program paired with a **members-only tour** of a "green" home.

Date to be determined

Researcher/historian **Jennifer Marquardt**, HACC Murray's Mill Site manager and Collections Assistant will speak on Catawba County history.

Date to be determined

Celebrated author **Tommy Tomlinson** returns to Rehobeth Church.



AUSTIN ALLRAN

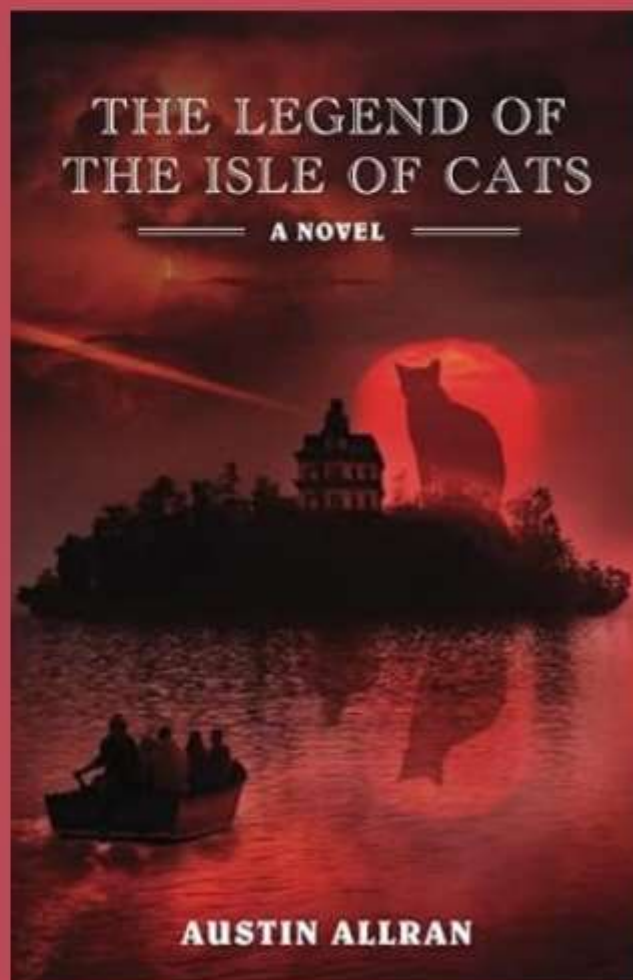
AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER VISIT

January 21, 7:00 pm
**Sherrills Ford-Terrell
Library**

9154 Sherrills Ford Rd
Terrell, NC 28682



PATTY THOMPSON
Redhawk Publications



Sponsored by Friends of the Sherrills Ford -Terrell Library
in partnership with the Catawba County Library System
free and open to the public

Author Austin Allran and Publisher Patty Thompson Coming to Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library January 21st



The Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library will present a program featuring an author and his publisher on January 21, 7:00 PM in the community room. Author **Austin Allran** will discuss his recently published book, The Legend of the Isle of Cats, and describe his experience as a writer. **Patty Thompson**, from Redhawk Publications, will provide insights into the world of editing and publishing.

Books will be for sale at the event, and checks will be accepted. A Friends **member-only Meet and Greet** with Austin and Patty will be held before the program from 6:15 pm to 6:45 pm.

Austin Allran is a writer, attorney and elected official who has written numerous short stories, poems and newspaper articles.

The Legend of the Isle of Cats is his first novel. He has received awards from the NC Writers' Network for a short story and the Hugh T. Lefler Award for a historical biography. Austin is currently serving as a Catawba County Commissioner. He has also served 3 terms in the North Carolina House and 14 terms in the North Carolina Senate. He is a life-long resident of Hickory, North Carolina.

Patricia (Patty) Thompson is the acquisition editor at Redhawk Publications, a creative initiative of Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, NC. In this role she evaluates manuscripts from authors, negotiates author contracts, shepherds accepted titles through the publishing pipeline and creates book-launch marketing strategies. In the four years she's been with Redhawk, she's worked with over 100 authors and overseen the publishing of nearly 175 books. Patty is not only an outspoken advocate of the literary arts, but she champions all artistic endeavors and proudly serves as the President for Arts Culture Catawba, formerly known as the United Arts Council of Catawba County.



This program is sponsored by Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library in partnership with the

Catawba County Library System. All programs are free and open to the public.

A Heartfelt Thank You for a Successful Holiday Event from Sabine Detzel, Event Chair

We are thrilled to share that our December 10th Holiday Event was a wonderful success with over 109 children and their families, bringing together the community in the spirit of joy and celebration. The event was filled with laughter, creativity, and holiday cheer, and it would not have been possible without the



incredible efforts of so many dedicated individuals.

A big thank you to **Ellen Dewey**, who played a key role in spreading the word about the event through social media and managing the Eventbrite registration. Her dedication ensured that our event was well-attended.



Sabine Detzel and Angela Chitwood



Ellen Dewey and **Sheryl Schuhose** were the friendly faces greeting everyone at the front registration table, ensuring that each guest received their book tickets and felt welcomed as they arrived.

Hallie Chitwood, thank you so much for assisting Santa in meeting with the children this year. We truly appreciate you taking the time to give back to the community. Your warm spirit and generosity make such a meaningful difference, and it's people like you who help bring so much joy and magic to this season.

Special thanks to our newest member, **Jeannette Dolan**, for diving right in and decorating the community room to create a magical space for Santa and the children. Jeannette's efforts were complemented by Ellen, who took on another important role, assisting with the decorations and contributing to the festive atmosphere.



The children's book table was staffed by the amazing team of **Evelyn Campbell**, **Lisa Yakovenko**, **Charlene Callahan** and **Pat Elston**. Their guidance helped eager families find age-appropriate children's books.



The Friendly Krafts 4 Kids were provided by **Sue Green, Barbara MacArthur, Christine Rupolo,** and **Kathy Bradham** providing fun, hands-on crafts for the kids. **Barbara MacArthur** was stationed at the table,



helping the children select their special craft to take home.

At the ornament-making table, **Donna Korte** and **Beth DeMauro** guided the children in creating their own festive ornaments, and it was heartwarming to see so many kids proudly showing off their creations.



The **music** portion of the event was truly a highlight, thanks to **Joyce O'Neal**, who led the musical festivities. Joyce was joined by



three of her talented students—**David Couch, Angela Couch, and Piers DiMartino** — who played piano, filling the room with beautiful holiday music that received rave reviews from attendees.



Finally, a **big thank you** goes out to **Shelley Orr and her amazing team** for all of their help in making this event run so smoothly. Their hard work, organization, and support were instrumental in making the event a success, and we are grateful for their contributions.

We are incredibly grateful to all of our volunteers and community members who made this event so memorable.



Thank you again, and we look forward to more wonderful events in the future!

**A
Photo
Montage
Follows:**





Sabine Detzel and her family were the event's set-up and take-down crew.







Emily Huling and Charlene Callahan Read for 15 Elementary Classrooms



Little Owl's Love, by Divya Srinivasan, was LOVED by the first-grade students and teachers at Sherrills Ford, Catawba, and Balls Creek Elementary Schools!

During his nighttime flight, Little Owl encountered a mushroom-loving hedgehog, beavers (who were very skilled at building their lodge), and hibernating bear—who snored! Both Little Owl and our 250 attentive students learned that nature is full of magic and surprises both in the sky and on the ground. After reading along with our volunteers, the students



created colorful owl Christmas ornaments with the help of teachers and volunteers. FOSFTL supplies the craft materials.

A copy of the book is donated to each classroom and each student receives a personal bookmark to remember the book and our visit.

If you are interested in sharing your love of reading with delightful students, please contact our coordinators:

Emily Huling at sellstrat@aol.com or Charlene Callahan at charcallct@gmail.com



First FOSFTL Scholastic Art Show of the Year Features Sherrills Ford Elementary Students, K-6



The walls of the library were brightened in December by the art works of Sherrills Ford Elementary School students, K-6th grade. [Megan Malby](#) is the Art Instructor there, and the works ranged from still lifes to abstracts. Plenty of imagination and assorted techniques made for a colorful exhibit. Thanks to Scholastic Art Chair [Evelyn Campbell](#) and SFTL staff for this exhibit!





Every
Child
Has a
Unique
View of
the
World



January Kraft-4-Kids Offers Virtual Comfort from the Cold



Christine Rupolo's January Kraft acknowledges the reality of winter—and the cure for cold. Maybe not the proverbial “common cold,” but at least the cold we all experience in common!

Winter Is Here, by Kevin Henkes, presents the snow in the yard, the ice on the pond, and the clothing needed to go outside and enjoy the winter experiences.

Most people think summer is the warmest season. Lauren Stringer's Winter is the Warmest Season, however, is brimming with evidence to the contrary--from roaring fires to grilled cheese sandwiches to toasty flannel pajamas. A unique twist on the traditional wintertime picture book, the visual narrative follows a boy and his family through a day of hot breakfasts, is teaming afternoon cocoa, and a festive candlelit party before bed.



And don't forget this staple of the season! Gingerbread Friends, by Jan Brett, serves up an adventure for the gingerbread baby—leaving the bakery seeking friends but finding unexpected encounters.

The hot cocoa Kraft summarizes all the comforts of the season: hot chocolate with peppermint and marshmallows. A little cutting and pasting plus some color brings it to life—and probably sends you to the kitchen for the real thing!!





You Can Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram

We currently post pictures and information about our events on both platforms. You do not need a Facebook account to keep current.



<https://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL/>

We are listed on Instagram as: sherrillsfordfol

Search for **Friends of Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library** on Facebook and if you're on Instagram, we are **sherrillsfordfol**. Please LIKE and share posts! Feel free to send a message if you would like a photo of you at the library or a Friends Event posted to either site. Ellen Janzen Dewey is the Administrator and initiator of our social media sites.

To see more of what is happening at SFT—by the week—and throughout the Catawba County Library System, visit :

<https://www.catawbacountync.gov/county-services/library/about/friends-of-the-library>

OR: Search in your browser for Catawba County Library/This Week @ Your Library.

Newsletter Submissions: Please e-mail **news and photo submissions, and community announcements** to Joyce O'Neal, newsletter editor, by the fourth Tuesday of the month: joyceoneal417@gmail.com.

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library 2023-2024

Officers:

President — Erica Batten

Vice-president: — Lisa Yakovenko

Secretary —Charlene Callahan

Treasurer — Joe Lebens

Publicity — Ellen Dewey

Membership — Sabine Detzel

Programs — We're looking!!

Newsletter — Joyce O'Neal

Board of Directors:

Joanie Gardner

Pat Elston

Jeanne Lebens

Sheryl Schuhose

Lynne Nelson

Erica Batten

Library Staff:

Library Services Manager — Shelley Orr

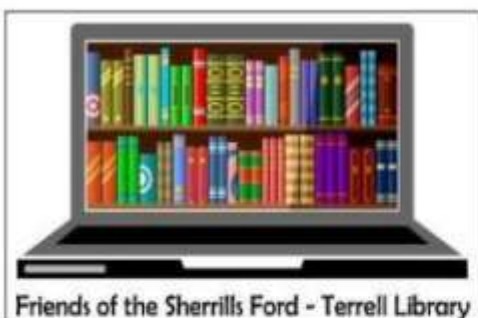
Librarian — Melissa Housel

Library Services Specialist — Kacy Steiger

Library Assistants — Lindsay Lewis, Katherine Sisak

& Kelsey Farah-Albertson

Location: Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library, 9154 Sherrills Ford Road, Terrell, NC 28682 Phone: (828) 466-6827



2024 - 2025 Membership Form July 1 – June 30

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library

Consider following us on Facebook or Instagram to keep current on planned activities

<http://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL> or  @sherrillsfordfol

Who are we?

• **The Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library** is a local non-profit 501(c) (3) organization comprised of members of the community. We are dedicated to supporting the mission of the Catawba County Library System, encouraging reading, expanding literacy, providing cultural opportunities, and inspiring a passion for life-long learning in our community.

What do we do?

- Support Library Programs such as the Summer Reading Program for adults and children
- Provide Community Programs throughout the year that offer broad learning opportunities for all ages
- Facilitate Literacy Programs at Sherrills Ford and Catawba Elementary
- Advocate for the Library by offering support and resources to fill needs not covered by their budget

What do you get?

- Besides the enjoyment of supporting community literacy initiatives and cultural events, your annual membership includes:
- **"The Friendly News"** periodic newsletters which keep you up to date on activities, events, and volunteer opportunities
- **Priority Access** to unique, fun, and enriching programs
- Many opportunities to **Get Involved** (see other side of this form for a complete list)

How do you sign up? We would love to have you join **"The Friends"** and we can't wait to meet you. Being part of this organization is an excellent way to support your community. Simply choose your donation level and fill out the below information.

- Donations above our annual \$10 Family Membership cost fund the bulk of our programs!
- We intentionally keep our Membership cost low and affordable.
- Revenues from Membership cover roughly 25% of our annual operating budget, so we very much appreciate and rely on donations beyond the basic membership cost.
- While most of our funds are used for our Sherrills Ford-Terrell community, a portion of our donations may be used periodically to support the Catawba County Library Endowment to ensure consistent and critical financial support beyond that provided annually by our state and local governments.

- ☐ Annual Renewal – Thank You**
☐ New Membership – Welcome!
***Please consider submitting your donation for possible Gift Matching, if your Company offers the opportunity.**
****Annual Membership July 1 – June 30.**

- ☐ \$10 Family Membership Cost
☐ \$50 Sponsor Donation*
☐ \$100 Patron Donation*
☐ Other Donation Amount \$_____*
- Checks made payable to: **Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library**

Name: _____ (as you wish used on our FOSFTL nametag)

Address: _____

_____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

You can drop off the membership form and check while at the library or send by mail to:

FOSFTL
 9154 Sherrills Ford Road
 Terrell, NC 28682

If you are interested in any of **the Volunteer Opportunities** below, put a check next to them, and we will get back to you. Teens may be eligible for school volunteer requirements.

- ☐ **Officer Role** – President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary (2-year term)
 - ☐ Nominating Committee to help us recruit talented Officer and Board Members
- ☐ **Fundraising Committee** to help us create a strategic approach to fundraising
 - ☐ **Book Bonanza Committee** helps us ensure ongoing supply of books
- ☐ **Holiday and Special Event Support** helps with our events such as our children's holiday party
- ☐ **Literacy Program** supports our program in the First and Second Grades by helping select books, assemble reading packets, or reading in one of our classrooms
- ☐ **Membership Committee** helps with outreach for renewal/new members through advertising and staffing event tables with information
- ☐ **Program Committee** partners with the library to generate and implement programs
- ☐ **Refreshment Team** organizes and provides refreshments for our events
- ☐ **Roadies Team** helps set up and clean up events
- ☐ **Publicity Committee** helps coordinate and expand how we publicize our work
- ☐ **Art Show Committee** will coordinate the dates for display with each school and the library calendar. The artwork will need to be collected from the school, library display set up and return the artwork to each school at the end.
- ☐ **Little Free Library Committee** helps facilitate a new venture with **Little Free Libraries** throughout our community
- ☐ **Friendly Krafts 4 Kids Committee** creates, organizes and stocks the "Take and Make" literacy-based kits for younger patrons of the library