



## *The Friendly News*

### *September, 2025*



### *Greetings from the President*

#### Greetings, Friends!

Traditionally, summer is a time to take a break from normal routines, and so it is with the Friends of the Library—sort of! While we don't have a business meeting in the summer, there has been quite a lot of busyness. For example, readers of all ages participated in the library's summer learning program, and the kids were treated to ice cream and fun activities to celebrate. Thanks to Charlene Callahan and the volunteers who helped make it happen!

Other important preparations set us up for a successful year ahead. Jeannette Dolan has stepped in as program committee chair and has already been meeting with her team to plan 2025-2026. And we have a whole new raft of volunteers for our first- and second-grade literacy programs, including new second-grade co-chairs, Kathryn Baranackie and Tina Huber. You can read below how the literacy team is ready for action.

Enjoy the last wisps of summer! I look forward to seeing you all at our first business meeting on September 16th.

Cheers, Erica



### September is Library Card Sign-up Month

The American Library Association is celebrating this month with the theme "One Card, Endless Possibilities."

From the ALA's website: "It may be small, but a library card packs a mighty punch." Borrowing concrete items is only a part of the library's benefits; engaging in programs like book clubs, movie night, crafting classes, lectures and cultural events is a definite asset to patrons of all ages. You can access technology, enjoy free Wi-Fi, or consult career resources. The library (and its dedicated staff) is there to support your goals, whether you're a student, a job-seeker, an entrepreneur, or a lifelong learner.

Digital access to platforms like Overdrive and Libby bring the world to your doorstep. Perhaps you know someone who would benefit from a library card—see if YOU can sign up a new cardholder in September!

### FOSFTL Calendar for 2025-2026

- |                       |                                                                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>September 16th</b> | <b>Business meeting</b> , Community Room, 6:30 p.m.                           |
| <b>November 11th</b>  | Joyce O'Neal's annual <b>Piano Recital</b> , Community Room, <b>6:30 p.m.</b> |
| <b>December 8th</b>   | Annual <b>Holiday Event</b> throughout the library, <b>5-8 p.m.</b>           |



## Introducing Abby Heilman, Author and New Friends Member

Abby Elise Reid Heilman is a local children's book author debuting her first book, All Around the Dog Park. Abby is a North Carolina native and alumna of Appalachian State University. As a woman taller than average, Abby is passionate about encouraging others to embrace their uniqueness and celebrate the beauty of no two people looking exactly the same. Abby pursued writing a children's book in hopes of sharing the values of self-love, confidence, and body acceptance with young audiences.

The Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library played a pivotal role in All Around the Dog Park's story. When it came time to edit the book, Abby chose to work from her local library. Abby drafted and submitted edits to her publisher from a comfy chair in the back corner of SFT!

All Around the Dog Park can be borrowed from the SFT branch library. The book is also available for purchase at *WarrenPublishing.net* and Amazon.

Purchasing through *WarrenPublishing.net* more directly supports the all-female team that wrote, illustrated, edited, and published All Around the Dog Park.

In addition to writing, Abby enjoys sipping seasonal lattes, walks with scenic views, and cracking jokes with friends and family.



## Fireflies Lit Up August's Kraft

**Kathy Bradham's** Friendly Kraft-4-Kids focused on a beautiful sight during our August evenings: the familiar flurry of fireflies we enjoy while waiting for bedtime.

Starting with a little glue, three pieces of construction paper, and a red crayon, this firefly even had wings! (But he couldn't get too close to the fire...)

The August Kraft was linked to Eric Carle's colorful The Very Lonely Firefly. And in tune with our "Friendly" theme, the story highlights a firefly's search for his friends. And so our firefly went searching for his friends. "Wait! What are those lights ahead? Are those my buddies?" What will our firefly meet along the way? Will he find his friends? These and other adventures are the story's plot, and beneath the obvious storyline lie issues like loneliness, the importance of friends, and the awareness of insects. A very meaningful book.

## September's Kraft Is Full of Fishing Fun!

It may seem that summer's over, but here in North Carolina we won't have to stay indoors for several more months and there's still time to go fishing. So **Christine Rupolo** linked her September Friendly Kraft-4-Kids to popular books featuring fish, of course!

The Rainbow Fish was first published in 1992 by Swiss author and illustrator Marcus Pfister and has been followed by a series of other books, all celebrating the idea that true happiness comes from giving to others rather than hoarding possessions.

The book is an international bestseller and has been translated into over 50 languages and adapted into an animated television series.

The pfish in question (you knew we weren't going to let that slide, didn't you...) is proud of his shiny, foil scales but lonely due to his beauty. After seeking advice from a wise octopus, he learns to share his scales with other fish, bringing him joy and happiness, (at least on a small scale).

Other books available from the library which share the themes of fish and the sea are: Going for a Sea Bath, by Andree Poulin/Anne-Claire Delisle; The Fish of Small Wishes, by Elana K. Arnold. (We hope that is to be followed by "The Wish of Small Fishes.")

As you can see from the picture, a paper plate is transformed into a happy fish, with lovely multi-colored scales and a tail. So when you're listening to your angler telling his/her next "fish story," remember the phishy, wishy, piscatorial subjects of September.





## FOSFTL Grade School Literacy Programs GROW!

From Emily Huling

The First- and Second-grade Literacy Programs have an exciting year ahead! We have assembled a **total of eleven** volunteers **including five new** volunteers! Two of our new members, **Tina Huber** and **Kathryn Baranackie**, have stepped up to co-chair our growing Second-grade program. Thanks to **Tammy Hallman** who did a fantastic job leading this program for the past few years! (Library Services Manager **Shelley Orr** is also pictured because she is sending and collecting supplies/info on getting library cards.)

**First-grade volunteers** will again be reading four times this year at Sherrills Ford Elementary, Catawba Elementary, and Balls Creek Elementary—a total of sixteen classrooms. In the 45 minutes we spend with the students, we read a book and do a fun craft activity related to the content.

**Second-grade readers** will visit Sherrills Ford Elementary and Catawba Elementary four times this year, reading to a total of eight classrooms. After the book is read, our readers engage the students to discuss key elements of the book.



**Tina Huber and  
Kathryn Baranackie**

To learn more about our literacy initiatives in the community, please get in touch with any of our program leaders:

Emily Huling 704-516-5114 [sellstrat@aol.com](mailto:sellstrat@aol.com)

Charlene Callahan 203-815-3137 [charcallct@gmail.com](mailto:charcallct@gmail.com)

Tina Huber 407-716-3009 [nomadpal17@yahoo.com](mailto:nomadpal17@yahoo.com)

Kathryn Baranackie 610-416-9334 [baranackie@yahoo.com](mailto:baranackie@yahoo.com)

A Room Full of Happy Bluey Readers Celebrate a Successful Summer Learning Program.



Coloring, cutting, conversing, celebrating...

A cute Bingo Pose...



Bingo and Bluey Impersonators

Librarian Melissa Housel organized all the activities (and there were a LOT) on the theme of the Bluey (and Bingo) book series.



Bluey had to settle for paper ice cream...

Melissa had a constant line of fascinated patrons to make personalized 3D mementos.



A table of Bluey books lined up, and children hard at work on the crafts Melissa provided.



Charlene Callahan reports that 27 ice creams (with syrup and sprinkles) were served to a total of 39 in attendance, including 12 adults.



**Note Emily's stylish new shirt!**

Thanks to our volunteers (not all shown here):

Emily Huling

Anne Smith

Kathryn Baranackie

Tina Huber

George and Mildred Trepina

Charlene Callahan

Barbara MacArthur

**Joyce O'Neal**

All Quiet on the  
Ice Cream Front...





## 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](mailto:joyceoneal417@gmail.com).

## Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library 2025-2026

### Officers:

President — Erica Batten

Vice-president: — Lisa Yakovenko

Secretary —Charlene Callahan

Treasurer — Joe Lebens

Publicity — Ellen Dewey

Membership — Sabine Detzel

Programs — Jeannette Dolan

Newsletter — Joyce O'Neal

### Board of Directors:

Joanie Gardner

Pat Elston

Jeanne Lebens

Sheryl Schuhose

Erica Batten

### Library Staff:

Library Services Manager — Shelley Orr

Librarian — Melissa Housel

Library Services Specialist — Kacy Steiger

Library Assistants — Lindsay Lewis, Katherine Sisak

& Kelsea Farah-Albertson

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

# Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library

9154 Sherrills Ford Rd., Terrell, NC 28682



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 30, 2026



Friends of the Library is a 503(c) (3) non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to supporting our local library and community. Through our efforts, we provide programs that promote literacy, foster lifelong learning, and strengthen our community ties.



- ☐ **Annual Renewal**
- ☐ **New Membership**

- ☐ **\$10 Family Membership**
- ☐ **\$50 Patron Donation**
- ☐ **\$100 Patron Donation**
- ☐ **Other Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_**

*Checks made payable to : Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library. Drop off at library or submit by mail*

**Name**

**Address**



**Phone**

**Email**

Your donation above the \$10 annual Family Membership makes a big impact – it helps fund 75% of our programs. While membership dues cover a portion of our budget, we rely on generous donations to keep offering vibrant literacy and lifelong learning programs for the Sherrills Ford-Terrell community.



**Connect with us  
on Facebook**



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