



## ***The Friendly News***

*December, 2025*



### **Greetings from the President**

#### **Greetings, Friends!**

As the holiday season approaches, I have begun to suspect that our Friends of the Library has a few undercover elves. Why? I made a wish list of volunteer roles that needed filling, and you delivered! Read on to learn about the new Book Bonanza team. In addition to that, we have members who have stepped up to learn Ellen's role as Publicity Chair, and others who are considering board positions.

Let's not forget to thank our longtime members who are bringing the holiday spirit, whether it's by decorating the library exterior with lights and figurines or the interior with student art, preparing the family holiday program, or keeping the community informed about it all.'

**Cheers, Erica**



**December 8th**

Annual **Holiday Event** throughout the library, **5-8 p.m.**



# FAMILY HOLIDAY EVENT PLUS SANTA

**MON. DECEMBER 8  
5-8PM**

**SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH LIBRARY  
9154 SHERRILLS FORD RD  
TERRELL, NC 28682**

**REQUIRED REGISTRATION  
OPENS NOV. 18**  
**Visit Santa in the  
Community Room**

Plus goodies, a book, crafts, face  
painting, music and games  
throughout the library

**[https://familyholidayeventplus  
santa2025.eventbrite.com](https://familyholidayeventplus<br/>santa2025.eventbrite.com)**

All events Sponsored by Friends of  
the SFT Library are free and open  
to the public, in partnership with the  
Catawba County Library System



## **The Family Holiday Event is Right Around the Corner!**



Figuratively of course, but also “literally”—right here at your SFT Library. So join us for a joyful, family-friendly evening filled with festive fun, creativity, and community cheer—all in a safe and welcoming space!

Our event is now live on Eventbrite.com if you would like to view all the details.

Thank you **Sabine Detzel** for your efforts organizing this great opportunity for area families!

Activities, face-painting, and crafts to include Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, and a brand-new age-appropriate book to take home for each child aged 0-12. Required registration begins November 18.

<https://FamilyholidayeventplusSanta2025.eventbrite.com>

The event can also be viewed by all on our public Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL/> as well as on the Facebook app @FOSFTL



**A few happy memories from last year—  
come this year and make more!**



## December's Krafts-4-Kids Addresses Mitten Matters on a Cold Day



**Kathy Bradham** has warmth on her mind this December, and Jan Brett's The Mitten is a loving tribute to the importance of tolerance and togetherness.

The story is based on a Ukrainian folktale, featuring Nicki, who loses his snow-white mitten in the snow.

A mole crawls in to get warm, followed by a rabbit, a hedgehog, an owl, a badger, and a fox. As the next animal—a bear!—squeezes in, it is followed by a mouse. The mouse's whiskers tickle the bear's nose, causing him to sneeze and this sends all the animals flying out of the mitten. As the mitten flies through the air, Nicki spots it and retrieves it.

As usual, it requires only a glue stick and a bit of coloring to transform the parts into a colorful mitten. (Now, is this the lost mitten, or the one remaining with Nicki...?)



The library has plenty of wintry-themed books to choose from—all good for a cold day!



## More Students Have Library Cards Thanks to the Literacy Team!

From **Emily Huling**

Thanks to our amazing literacy team volunteers, our October reading to first- and second-grade classes did more than share our love of reading. In partnership with our fantastic library, FOSFTL sent the students home with library card parental permission forms.

Our readers talked with the students about the privilege and benefits of having their very own library card.

We are excited to report that 33 forms were returned! **Shelley Orr**, library services manager, picked up the permission forms from the schools, entered them into the system, and library cards were delivered to the students.

Great teamwork FOSFTL volunteers and Shelley to make this happen!

## Susan Hunsucker Retires from the Book Bonanza



Retiring Book Bonanza ace, **Susan Hunsucker**, meets with the committee who will take over her chores: (L to R) **Susan Hunsucker**, **Cynthia Enright**, **Caryl Gordon**, **Kempie Kirkland** and **Christine Rupolo**.

After 15 years of sorting, cleaning, repairing and shelving donated books, **Susan Hunsucker** is relinquishing her role as the keeper of the FOSFTL flame—and its #1 fundraiser.

Susan says, “It’s been a labor of love.” And she means it! She has a

passion for books, but the “labor” ingredient has taken its toll. Last month, Susan spent 37 hours working on the Book Bonanza. This includes unpacking, sorting, and cleaning donated books, pulling outdated titles, and keeping notes. A typical month involves at least 25 hours of volunteer time. You can see why we have decided to transition the Book Bonanza to a committee effort!

The Book Bonanza (so titled not only for the alliterative appeal, but also to avoid any possible legal entanglements for a non-profit) has a history going back to the old library “down the road.” The Friends of the Library used to hold a book sale at its fall festival event. It was a huge undertaking because all of the books had to be hauled out just for the day and then packed back up and stored. Susan decided that the sensible thing to do was to offer the books year-round. “I had never done this before, but I knew it was easier than hauling those books around,” she said.

Over the years, Susan has developed an efficient system for keeping track of the books for sale on the shelves. Each book gets a small round sticker on its spine when it is put out. The stickers are color-coded by month and she often picks colors related to the season, e.g. green for December/Christmas. Any book that is unsold after three months is pulled and donated, either to the main library in Newton (where it sold to ThriftBooks.com) or to the FOSFTL’s Little Free Library. This system has been so successful that it has now been adopted by other library branches.

Because the Book Bonanza is FOSFTL’s biggest fundraiser, Susan emphasizes that the condition of the books is crucial to the success of the sale.. She insists that all hardbacks must have jackets, and if the jackets are torn, Susan repairs them. She carefully removes any written references to the former owners (by erasure or whiteout/blackout if necessary) and flips through all the pages to remove receipts or bookmarks or turned-down corners. In addition, stickers are removed by hand and Goo-B-gone is a vital supply!

The price of the books at the Book Bonanza is always affordable, and is 33% less than the prices at the main library. When “coffee-table” books arrive, the bargains can be astounding.

But the best bargains are children’s books. As part of FOSFTL’s mission for literacy and also Susan’s focus on encouraging children to read, children’s titles are priced at only 25 cents. And children’s books are accepted in any reasonable condition. And do they ever fly off the shelves!

**In nearly every edition of *The Friendly News*, there is a blurb reminding readers that the Book Bonanza is FOSFTL’s ESSENTIAL fundraiser and that books of all kinds and descriptions are ALWAYS needed. Help fill up our shelves!  
And have a happy holiday!**





## Joyce O'Neal's Ninth Annual Piano Recital Featured the "Famous and Forgotten"

The evening's program presented compositions ranging from 1818 to 1950; a span of time beginning with the weak, tinny "fortepiano" of Mozart's age to the robust, full-voiced grand of our time.

A special guest, Piers DiMartino, began the program with Sergei Prokofiev's Opus 75, No. 6—a rousing and challenging example of virtuoso piano composition. We hope to hear Piers again!

Images of each composer were projected, including portraits of Franz Mozart (Wolfgang Amadeus' youngest son), an 1848 photograph of Frédéric Chopin,

Diederich Krug, Camille Saint-Saëns, Isaac Albéniz, George and Ira Gershwin, Paul Hindemith, and York Bowen.

Some of these men were famous and popular in their own time, but quickly forgotten after their demise. Others remain famous to this day. But when music could only be heard if you were within

earshot of a musician, thousands of composers toiled at their craft. A short selection of typical compositions of the past offers a glimpse into the "Golden Age of the Piano," when sales of printed music were the composer's goal and measure of popularity.



## **Sherrills Ford Elementary Supplies This Season's First Art Exhibit**

**From Evelyn Campbell, Project Chair**      **Photos by Pat Elston**

Please enjoy a short "tour" of the current Student Art Exhibit. Art teacher Ms. Megan Maltby has done a wonderful job with her students in creating both black-and-white and watercolor pieces.

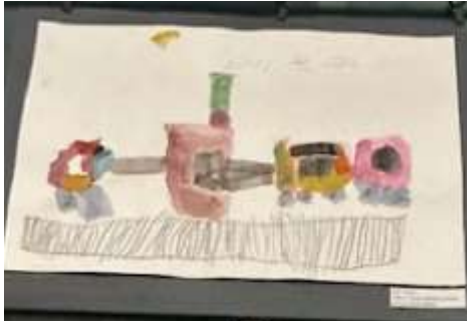
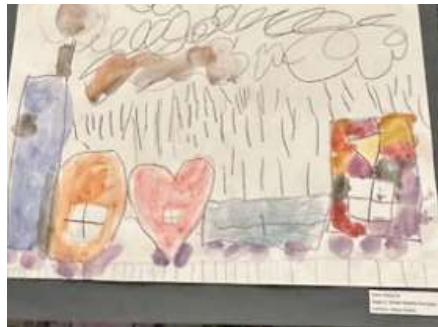
Project Chair **Evelyn Campbell** has already arranged all the exhibit dates for the 2025-2026 FOSFTL year. The schools represented are Sherrills Ford Elementary (on display now), Bandys High School, Mill Creek Middle School, and Balls Creek Elementary School. It will certainly be a colorful year in the library!

At the FOSFTL budget planning meeting, a \$40.00 Amazon Gift Card was approved for each of the art teachers this year in appreciation for their excellent cooperation with this project. The Amazon Gift Card was chosen because there is no service fee and no sales tax charged for it.





**The Artwork Will Be On Exhibit Until  
December 12th**





### 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*

<b>Name</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Address</b>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
<b>Phone</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Email</b>	<input type="text"/>

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





### Interested in Volunteering?

Check any opportunities below that catch your eye—we'll be in touch!

*Teens may be eligible to earn school volunteer hours.*

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- ☐ **Officer Roles** – Serve as President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary (2-year term)
- ☐ **Nominating Committee** – Help identify and recruit qualified Officers and Board Members during election cycles and as vacancies arise
- ☐ **Fundraising Committee** – Develop and support fundraising strategies and create campaigns that support the library's programs and goals
- ☐ **Book Bonanza Committee** – Ensure a steady supply of books for our sales by assisting with book collection, sorting, and inventory management
- ☐ **Family Holiday Event** – Assist with planning and/or helping on the day of our December celebration
- ☐ **Literacy Program** – Support early literacy by selecting books, assembling reading packets, or reading in classrooms (Grades 1–2)
- ☐ **Community Advocacy Committee** – Promote the library and its programs, and build community support
- ☐ **Membership Committee** – Support member outreach, renewals, thank-you emails, and event table staffing
- ☐ **Program Committee** – Collaborate with the library to brainstorm, plan, and run programs and events
- ☐ **Refreshments/Roadies Team** – Provide and serve refreshments, and assist with event setup/cleanup
- ☐ **Publicity Committee** – Coordinate and expand publicity efforts
- ☐ **Art Show Committee** – Coordinate collection, library display, and return of student artwork to local schools
- ☐ **Little Free Library Committee** – Help stock and maintain Little Free Libraries throughout the community and track any needed kiosk repairs
- ☐ **Friendly Krafts 4 Kids Committee** – Create and organize literacy-themed “Take and Make” craft kits for young library patrons