



The Friendly News
March, 2026



Friends of the Sherrills Ford - Terrell Library

Greetings from the President

Greetings, Friends!

As we head into spring, we can expect any changes in the landscape—indeed, the redbuds and a few daffodils have already begun to peek out. The Lake Norman Garden Club, with our financial support, will likewise be continuing their transformation of the library grounds. Look for some exciting changes with native plants in new places.

Likewise, the Friends of the Library continues to grow and adapt to the seasons we encounter. The newest area of growth will be a publicity committee to take on the momentous tasks that Ellen has shouldered for years. At the February business meeting, we learned that Joyce also plans to step down as newsletter editor, and we discussed a transition away from the traditional monthly newsletter to a new role of historian/archivist, someone who will collect photos and stories, perhaps producing an annual presentation or impact report.

To honor the work that Ellen and Joyce have done to promote our organization, we will host a brief reception for them and for Susan Hunsucker at the beginning of our April business meeting. The meeting will be a busy one, as we continue to discuss some issues that came up at the February meeting and hear from a special guest: Ingrid Keller, the executive director of the United Arts Council of Catawba County. And, committee chairs will present their budget requests for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Please join us!

Cheers, Erica

FOSFTL 2025-26 Program Schedule

- March 10th** **Lake Norman Garden Club Program: “Monarch Butterflies.”**
Community Room, 6:30 p.m.
- March 23rd** **Library Lovers Trivia Day!** Come in and play!
(In celebration of the Catawba Co. Library System’s 90th Anniversary)
- April 21st** **Business Meeting, Community Room, 6:30 p.m.,** with **Ingrid Keller,**
executive director of the United Arts Council of Catawba County
- April 23rd** **FOSFTL Meet & Greet,** Community Room, **Noon ‘til 2**
April 27th **FOSFTL Meet & Greet,** Community Room, **5-7 p.m.**
- May TBD** **Family Fun Day/Summer Learning Kickoff**

The Monarch Butterfly—One of Nature's Most Surprising Species



The Lake Norman Garden Club will host an educational event on **March 10th (6:30 p.m.)** at the Sherrills Ford Terrell Library's Community Room, open to all local residents. The focus of the presentation will be the unusual life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly, a species which is particularly challenged in our changing world.

As a member of the FSFTL, you are likely aware of the garden club's partnership with the Friends to re-plant and assist with maintenance of the library's flower beds. The Friends have supplied the funding and the LKN Garden Club has been working diligently for the last two seasons, removing the ground cover and filling those beds with plants native to North Carolina. A sign out **front draws attention in particular to the library's flower beds as pollinator-friendly environments.**



The Lake Norman Garden Club, under President Donna Smith, consists of women who share a passion for gardening and gardening education. The club meets the third Monday of each month, usually at the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library, starting at 12:30 p.m. (We do not meet during June and July.) Meetings consist of an educational portion provided by guest speakers, followed by a business meeting. Club members are asked to participate in the annual plant sale every fall. Proceeds of the garden club sale fund educational scholarships for local high school seniors planning to major in horticulture or a related field. The garden club also partners with Mountain Creek Park and Sherrills Ford Elementary School.

Their next monthly meeting will be on March 16th, starting at 12:30 p.m. at the library's meeting room. There is a short social time at 12:30 followed by the meeting starting at 1:00 p.m. Please let us know if you would like to attend the March events. If you would like additional information, please reach out to one of our contact members listed below:

Kathy Bradham 443-831-6000 kat.bradham@gmail.com

Jean Dearlove 828-478-1081 jpdearlove@aol.com

LKNGC First Vice Presidents





If Pete the Cat Can Be Irish, So Can You!

Thanks to **Martha Petterez**, a lucky shamrock is free for the taking—and maybe worth a pot of gold! St. Patrick’s Day is upon us and all of us want some Irish luck, so dance a jig and make for the lobby, where this month’s Friendly-Krafts-4-Kids kit awaits!

A little assembly is all it takes to claim the kit—and if the mustache is inverted, it makes a nice smile!

There are lots of age-appropriate books available—just ask one of the friendly librarians. And maybe Dolly Parton will be festooned as a leprechaun!



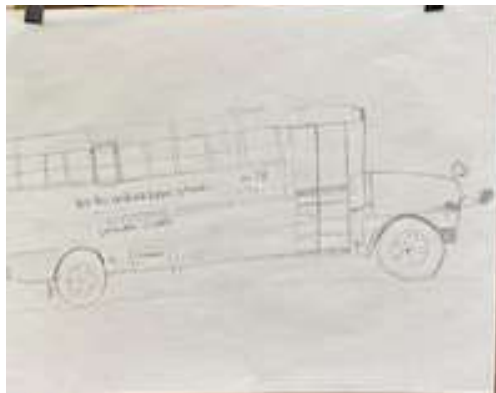
The Catawba County Library System celebrates its 90th anniversary in 2026, marking nine decades of service since its formal opening in March 1936 following a community-driven book donation effort.

The 2026 celebration includes a special 90th-anniversary-themed Bingo-style Adult Reading Challenge, encouraging patrons to engage with local history, literature, and library resources to win prizes. This features prompts aimed at celebrating the community, such as reading books set in Appalachia or the Piedmont, and participating in library-led activities.

Our library’s history: following a community-driven book donation effort, the library was established in 1936 in Newton through the efforts of the American Legion Auxiliary, with Miss Challie Brandon Hall serving as the first librarian. Beginning with a 1938 bookmobile made from a school bus, the library now operates multiple branches, a “Library to Go” mobile unit, and offers programming including STEAM activities, technology access (hotspots, laptops) with instruction, and extensive digital collections via the Libby app.

Mills Creek Middle School Artworks Exhibited in February

Mr. Camren Champion supplied examples of his students' work to brighten up the library's cool February light. Selections from the artwork on display are below. Thanks to Evelyn Campbell and Pat Elston, as well as the library staff, for arranging and photographing the exhibit. We hope you got a chance to enjoy the display!





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 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, Kelsea Farah-Albertson, and Anna Kennelly

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.



Special "Friends Only" Activities

- 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.



Little Free Libraries



Connect with us on Facebook



Holiday Event for Children

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.

- 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

