



**Friends
of the
Greene County Library**



**NEWSLETTER
MARCH/APRIL 2016**

The Virginia Festival of the Book. This annual five-day event (March 16-20) brings readers and writers together for a celebration of books, reading, literacy, and literary culture. On March 18, the Greene County Library will host **Leanna Joyner**, author of *Hiking Through History: Civil War Sites on the Appalachian Trail, Including the Underground Railroad and the Brown Mountain Creek Freedman Settlement*, who will discuss the book and her research. The event has been very popular in past years, and this topic should be of great interest. Refreshments will be served, and the book will be available for purchase. Save the date: Friday, **March 18, at 7:00 pm** at the PVCC Community Center.

THE BIG READ. The Big Read returns to JMRL for the tenth year in March. All book lovers are encouraged to read and discuss *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers. Throughout the month, all library branches will host many free programs and discussions about the book, exploring themes such as Southern Gothic Literature, mental illness, and deaf culture. To highlight the deaf culture and communication, there will be American Sign Language signs throughout the library branches. Find all the signs in the Greene library and earn a prize. Pick up The Big Read brochure at the library for a schedule of events during March.



Second Friday Film Series. **March 11, 7:00 pm** - The Heart is a Lonely Hunter (1968). **April 8, 7:00 pm** - Mr. Turner (2014). The last quarter century of British painter J.M.W. Turner's life.

Poetry Contest for Adults. (March 1-31) Submit a poem for a chance to win a prize in this contest sponsored by the JMRL in partnership with WriterHouse. Contest forms and guidelines will be available at all JMRL locations. Winning entries will be read at Central Library's Poetry on the Steps on April 21.

A Note from the Friends President. The Greene County library should be the hub of our community and we, the Friends organization, should do everything we can to continue financial and hands-on support to keep activities ongoing and to be able to offer new programs. We want people to come to the library, not only to borrow books, use the equipment and services, and sit in the cozy chairs to read the magazines, but also to enjoy the free events open to all. The monthly Friday film series, the annual open-mic night, and the Festival of the Book event are just a few examples.

The Board of Directors and the Branch Librarian hope to initiate a few ideas for new events, like offering an evening dance (waltz) class, arts and crafts classes, a local music group session occasionally, a social get-together at a restaurant or local winery. We would like to have **your suggestions and ideas about different programs** that would draw folks together. In addition, we will consider **your offers to conduct classes or sessions in which you have expertise.** (We know you're out there!)

We also want to make books readily accessible outside the library by setting up more **Little Free Libraries** in the county, having books to offer at the Food Pantry during a designated month or two, and possibly including books or magazines to home-bound folks with their meal deliveries.

Greene County citizens (and our close Madison and Albemarle neighbors who support the Friends and the Greene library) are fortunate to have such a wonderful place where programs and events take place for kids, teens, and adults – thanks to your support!

Volunteers Needed. Extra hands are always needed at the library events and activities. **VOLUNTEER** sign-up forms are on the “Friends shelf” in the library. Please think about becoming a volunteer.

Arts Festival at the High School. The 7th annual WMHS Arts Festival takes place on **Saturday, March 19, 10:00 am-4:00 pm.** The free event features student art displays, music and drama performances, local arts and crafts vendors, food, and fun.

“If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?”
George Carlin

Spring Book Sale. The annual Spring Book Sale put on by the “big” JMRL Friends of the Library takes place April 2-10 from 10 am-7pm at the Gordon Avenue Library in Charlottesville. Proceeds from the sale benefit library programs and facilities. Items in all subjects and genres will be available for all days, and shelves will be restocked frequently. Great books, at great prices, for a great cause!

Radar & Robotics. Join WMHS seniors Joey Boehman and Daniel Mateen at the library as they introduce the history of radar on **Saturday, April 2**, and robotics on **Saturday, April 9, at 2-3:30 pm**, followed by hands-on demonstrations. Build your own crystal radio at the radar class, and bristle bot and solar roller at the robotics class. **Required registration begins on March 1 and is limited to 12 participants.** Grades 6-12.

The Vine. If you have not seen **The Vine** web site, you need to check it out. It is an independent web site in Greene County and offers a comprehensive listing of upcoming events in Greene. It is a terrific resource for planning your social calendar. Take a look at www.thevinegc.com.

Tax Season Resources. Federal tax forms are available in all library branches. Visit www.jmrl.org/taxes for links to resources that can help you file your taxes.

Scheduled Library Closings. April 13, Thomas Jefferson’s Birthday.

Does it seem too quiet around the house? Do you miss stepping on squeaky toys and stuffed mice? Do you miss big brown puppy eyes lovingly gazing at you...not to mention kitty hair all over your clothes?

You may need to visit an animal shelter and adopt a critter.
Your life will be richer for it.

