

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Dwight McInvaill, (843) 545-3304

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For Immediate Release

Books, Bricks, Bytes, Bushes and Benches

Volunteers go the extra mile to make new library a community treasure

Preparations for the Friends of the Waccamaw Library (FOWL) Book Sale are in full swing, with books in colorful piles and rows as far as the eye can see. Mysteries, histories, autobiographies and bestselling fiction await discovery by happy bibliophiles on Friday and Saturday.

In one corner, something new is afoot. Volunteers arrange cards containing an alliterative cornucopia - books, bricks, bytes, bushes and benches - and a beautiful rendering of a new 17,000 square foot library. It's the launch of the Five Bs Campaign, a fundraising effort that allows supporters to make a designated gift that will bring **The Library Center – Waccamaw** into eye-catching, state of the art reality.

"We're so excited that we've broken ground for **TLC – Waccamaw**, and that construction will begin this fall," said Library Director Dwight McInvaill. "But, while county funding will provide this beautiful, larger space on Willbrook Boulevard, the features that make the space a true community center will have to be provided by local library users and supporters."

The TLC-FOWL Fundraising Committee and dozens of library advocates are working toward a goal of \$130,000 for enhancements to the new library, including an expanded collection, beautiful and inspirational landscaping, cozy seating inside and out, and technology that reflects our times.

"With the Five Bs Campaign, you can choose the element that means the most to you," said TLC Challenge Co-Chair Ted Hiley. "Right now, we're especially interested in taking orders for engraved bricks. They will be used in a library herb garden and around the new flagpole. Not only will they beautify our exterior, they'll show future generations the community support that built this site."

The other Bs add their own special appeal: every \$350 that is donated to "books" buys a whole shelf of reading materials. In the new library, the children's department alone is 70% larger – lots of room for great reads. Donations to "bushes" and "benches" help create landscaping that will make the library inviting, and extend its useable space outdoors.

"Bytes' donations will be especially important to creating a leading edge library," added McInvaill. "This is how we'll fund public use computers, special function software, ultramodern projection systems, computer compatible whiteboards and wireless access throughout."

TLC-Waccamaw is the realization of ten years of planning, advocating and fundraising. It's within walking distance of schools, shopping centers and homes, and will offer a large auditorium, conference rooms, and 24 public use computer stations.

"The Waccamaw Neck is a melting pot, peopled with residents who have settled here from all over the nation," said TLC Challenge Co-Chair Jean Cross. "They come from places where libraries are fully funded, and places where communities paid for the library from the ground up. We have the best of both worlds: a beautiful new, county-funded building that we can help enhance, and choose what those enhancements will be."

For more information on the Five B's Campaign, please call (843) 979-0561 or email TLCWaccamaw@gmail.com.