Efforts to open Six Mile Library continuing

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

SIX MILE — Although a formal opening date has not yet been set, volunteers organizing the new Community Library of Six Mile are working hard in preparation.

"We are currently putting the books on the shelves, and our volunteers are still cataloging hundreds of books," said Diane Palmer, who is working with Brenda Rippy in organizing the effort.

Palmer said local businesses have donated plants, potting soil, mulch and supplies for landscaping around the building. Local gardeners such as Susan Bristow and Bill Catoe have supplied labor and expertise.

The idea for a public library originated several years ago when Mayor John Wade sent out a questionnaire asking community members what they wanted to see in Six Mile.

More than 300 of the 568 survey respondents named a library, behind additional restaurants and a grocery store, among their top three preferences.

Rippy, Palmer and a group of volunteers then decided to take on the project. Since last August, the nonprofit public library with a 501(c)3 status has collected 7,000 books.

"Books have been donated from as far away as Simpsonville, as well as from Seneca and Salem," Palmer said. "Six Mile Elementary School donated new books worth $100. We need history, local area and children's books."

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, eight volunteers catalog books while additional volunteers spend Saturdays painting and performing other work at the home of the new library on S.C. Highway 183.

> **'We are currently** putting the books on the shelves, and our volunteers are still cataloging hundreds of books.'
>
> **Diane Palmer**
> Community Library of Six Mile organizer

Palmer said a date for the official opening is unknown as additional work is required on the building. Once the library is open, Palmer said more volunteers would be needed.

"They will be trained," Palmer said. "Any hours would be appreciated. We are still looking for monetary donations."

A hot dog sale has been scheduled from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 20 at the library, with two hot dogs, chips and drink for $5 as well as a silent auction and T-shirts for sale. All proceeds go to the library. Duke Energy has already donated $1,000 for rent and utilities.

For more information regarding the fundraiser, contact Palmer at (864) 868-9695 or palmer.diane@gmail.com. To make donations to the library, contact Rippy at (864) 506-0225 or brendrippyrealt@bellsouth.net.

greg@dailyjm.com | (864) 973-6687