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Library unveils new BookMobile to better serve our communities

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (July 19, 2016) – There's a new BookMobile in town, and it's coming soon to a school, community center, nursing home, outdoor festival or parade near you. It's a rolling branch of your Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, and it offers bestsellers, fiction, nonfiction, DVDs, music CDs, children's materials, large-print books and more – a wide sample of the items you can find at any of our 12 branch library buildings.

Our library on wheels is a new 2015 Ford Transit, funded in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS). But the van didn't become a BookMobile overnight. First, it had to be customized to serve the needs of our library users with traveling shelves, a ramp for easy loading and unloading, a retractable awning for shade, and mobile Wi-Fi. Then, we decorated it with a colorful landscape – wrapping courtesy of ShaBob Signs – so everyone who sees it will know there's lots of reading fun on board.

The next big stop for our BookMobile is the Summer Reading Field Day for Kids on Saturday, July 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Big Spring International Park. All 12 branches of HMCPL will celebrate our young readers' Summer Reading accomplishments with a party featuring games, prizes, food and more.

Whenever you see the BookMobile in action, let your friends know on social media, and share your photos with us on Instagram by using the hashtag #LibraryOnWheels. If you'd like to bring the BookMobile to your Madison County community group, please contact HMCPL's Outreach Department at 256-532-5961 or outreach@hmcpl.org.

We're asking local businesses to help us fuel our BookMobile with plenty of books and other materials. In exchange for a company's sponsorship of literacy in our community, we will display the company's logo on the back of the BookMobile. To become a sponsor, please contact <u>foundation@hmcpl.org</u>.

About the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library
This is the public's library. The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a
nonprofit 12-branch system that serves all of Madison County. For nearly 200 years,

the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of our communities through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of more than 500,000 items, HMCPL provides outreach services, a BookMobile and Book Bike, online services, training, an extensive digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-Fi, meeting spaces and more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit hmcpl.org.

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