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NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library

December 2018



From the North Pole Annual Express....

Breaking News!



Santa again names The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library “Best Library Elves of the Year!”

The Friends are the longest running recipients of this coveted award.

By Alabaster Snowball
HEAD ELF AND STAFF WRITER

Annually this award goes to the non-profit organization that gives the most outstanding support to its neighborhood library.

Although the Spring Branch-Memorial Library is funded by the Harris County Public Library system, the support and additional funding by the Friends takes this branch library **on beyond excellence.**

In an interview with Mrs. Claus, she says that although Harris County provides support and excellent staff for their libraries, it just does not have the funds to make them all GREAT. That’s where the Friends shine. The Friends provide **significant additional funding** for

- Books for adults and children (\$7,750)
- Ebooks (\$5,000)
- Adult programs (\$1,000)
- Children and Teen programs (\$6,000)
- Craft supplies (\$1,250)
- Additional staff (\$400)
- And more....

Funds come from Memberships, Buy-A-Book campaign, the Annual Plant and Book Festival, and additional contributions.

This branch is known throughout the system for its strong neighborhood presence. The Friends are a huge factor in its success.

Santa and Mrs. Claus congratulate the Friends and hope this award will encourage others to join the Friends too! They say, *“Spread the joy of the season throughout the year through the Friends.”*

Inside This Newsletter...



- “Best Library Elves of the Year!”
- Winter Break Reading Challenges for all
- 2018 Buy-A-Book
- Lobby Books—gifts for all!
- Kroger Community Reward Program update

REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS

SUN	CLOSED	MON	1PM - 9PM	TUES	10AM - 9PM	WED	10AM - 6PM
		THUR	10AM - 6PM	FRI	1PM - 6PM	SAT	10AM - 5PM

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 5PM DECEMBER 21 THROUGH DECEMBER 25 AND CLOSING AT 5PM DECEMBER 31 THROUGH JANUARY 1, REOPENING JANUARY 2. ALSO CLOSED JANUARY 21 FOR MLK DAY. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Spring Branch-Memorial Library Website
www.hcpl.net/location/spring-branch-memorial-branch-library

Between newsletters, keep up with the Friends on our website at www.friendsofsbml.org or contact us at friends.sbm@hotmail.com

Giving is its own reward. —Russell, in the movie, Secret Santa



Kid Happenings

Tickets to Kid Happenings events are **free** 30 minutes ahead of most events—and the **Friends of the SB-M Library contribute funds to provide occasional snacks and cooking and crafts supplies.**

REGULAR ONGOING PROGRAMS

Baby Time is every Wednesday at 10:00-10:30AM or 10:45-11:15AM for infants 0-15 months and parents/caregivers. Come for stories, rhymes, songs, and social time.

Come to **Toddler Time** on Wednesdays 11:30AM to noon or Thursdays 10:00-10:30AM. These story times feature stories, songs, rhymes, finger plays and fun for children ages 16 months to three years.

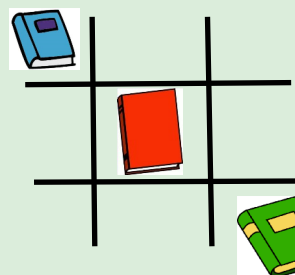
Preschool Storytime & Craft for three to six year olds is scheduled each Thursday at 11:00-11:30AM. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and a craft project.

Story time at the Library— December 17, 7:00-7:30PM

A family Story Time especially for the younger set, but all ages are welcome! ****Pajamas optional!****



New this year — Winter Break Reading Challenges!



Join the **Tic-Tac-Toe reading challenge for kids, teens and adults** that starts **December 14**. "Game board" reading challenges can be picked up in the Library. Read three books in any direction of the board and return your "game board" to the Library by **January 12** to claim a prize. The Teen Challenge is for students in Grades 6-12 (ages 12-18) and the School Age Challenge is for Grades 1-5 (ages 6-11).

- Samples of books for the School Age Challenge: Read a Bluebonnet Book; listen to an audio book; read a graphic novel....
- Samples of books for the Teen Challenge: Read a book with a one word title; read the first book in a series; read a book suggested by a staff member....
- Samples of books for the Adult Challenge: Read an award winning book; enjoy a travel guide for a place you'd like to visit; read a mystery....

*There is even an entry for each age group to win a \$20 Target gift card!
(Gift cards provided by the Friends!)*



Membership Application or Renewal

We do not share any of your information with anyone outside our organization.

*Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

*Email Address: _____

\$10 General \$25 Family \$50 Associate \$100 Patron

Please change my address. Please send my newsletter by ground mail only.

Please increase my membership to \$_____. I would like to volunteer with the Friends.

I would like to make an additional contribution of \$_____.

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library

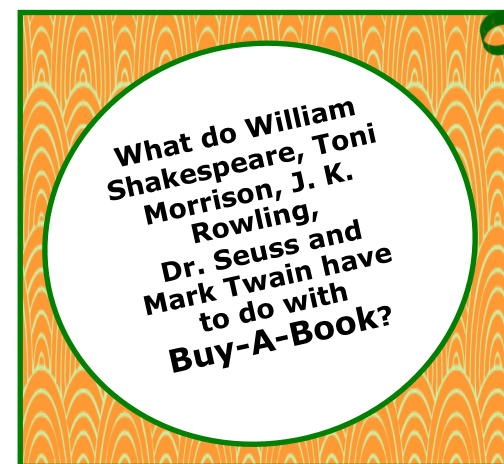
Mailing address: 930 Corbindale Road, Houston, TX 77024

OR with PayPal on our website: www.friendsofsbml.org/joinrenew

* Required entries

Contributions are tax deductible.

Join us!
...and
ask a
friend
to be a
Friend!



Find the answer to this question in the 2018 Buy-A-Book Brochure you should have received in the mail. Or pick one up at the Library!

Gift the Library through Friends throughout the year while you shop!

Kroger Community Reward Program Update—

Kroger has updated its system and changed our Friends' account number to **DU659**. Please update your account with Kroger if you are a Loyalty member. Between the end of August and the end of October, 14 families contributed \$25 to the Friends just by shopping at Kroger. **Thank you to those families** and please consider joining our Kroger Community Reward program if you have not already!

For more information, go to www.friendsofsbml.org/shop-at-kroger-or-randalls-and-benefit-the-friends.html

REMEMBER—Lobby Books at the Library entrance are always a great source of pleasure throughout the year for a small donation—and are especially a source for thoughtful giving at the holiday season! These may be seasonal books as well as fiction, nonfiction, and children's books. A group of **the Friends** sorts donated books weekly to provide YOU with the best selection of quality books suitable for giving. (And while you are buying for those on your lists, pick up something for yourself too!) *The librarians will happily accept your donations for these "as new" books!*

