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Houston, TX 77024

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# NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library

Summer 2020



**COVID-19 changed the world for us all, but LIBRARIES LIVE ON!**



Crystal Ball Gazing!

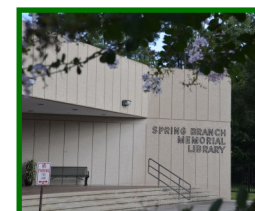
What Lies Ahead???

## WHAT THE FRIENDS KNOWS RIGHT NOW....

**The Library remains CLOSED to the public!**

**BUT THE LIBRARY IS STILL THERE FOR US!**

- ◇ The **Book Drop** at the Library is OPEN. Please put all returns through the Book Drop where they will be “quarantined” for several days. No overdue fines will be charged while the Library is closed to the public.



- ◇ You can still **request ebooks online!** Enjoy!!!
- ◇ Although many of us have been busily culling our personal libraries during this enforced time at home, **the Library CANNOT take your book donations!** Please save them until the Library is able to operate as a full-service system again.

(OR—currently **MAM** at 1625 Blalock takes books and other items. Please check with them about donation requirements.)

- ◇ **Contact-Free Curbside Service is postponed indefinitely.** Originally planned to restart by the end of May, the county system has extended its *Stay At Home, Work Safe* order to all libraries into June. Please watch the Library’s [website](#) for updates on a restart date.

**ALL Summer Programs will be VIRTUAL!**

**ALL PROGRAMS WILL RUN THROUGH THE HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM—  
June 1 through August 1**

**There WILL be a Summer Reading Program for all ages!**



Register at [hcpl.beanstack.org/reader365](http://hcpl.beanstack.org/reader365)

**There WILL be Children’s Programs**



Also **VIRTUAL!** No tickets required!

## Inside This Newsletter...



- **Going Virtual!** Summer Programs 2020—*Imagine Your Story* for all ages
- Plant & Book Festival—No plants; no books; but **COUPONS!**
- What lies ahead...
- Membership matters!

### REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS (Subject to change until full service resumes.)

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

### Spring Branch-Memorial Library Website

[www.hcpl.net/location/spring-branch-memorial-branch-library](http://www.hcpl.net/location/spring-branch-memorial-branch-library)

Between newsletters, keep up with *The Friends* on our website at [www.friendsofsbml.org](http://www.friendsofsbml.org) or email us at [friends.sbm@hotmail.com](mailto:friends.sbm@hotmail.com)

**Please note: Any Membership updates after May 15 will appear on your September newsletter.**

**How is this all going to work? See inside for more information....**

*Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.* —Helen Keller (1880-1968) Author, political activist and lecturer. (First deaf-blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree)



**“QUESTIONS! WE HAVE QUESTIONS!”**



**VIRTUAL PROGRAMS??? HOW DOES THIS WORK FOR KIDS???**



Well, it's a different summer for sure! But the county system and our own librarians have been working diligently to provide interesting, engaging and enriching experiences for all. The various branches are taking turns developing a series of activities on a theme for the week. Each week will include:

**a related Activity Kit... performances.... an HCPL video.... a Reading Challenge**

**Week 1--Music:**

Developed and led by our own head librarian, Jennifer Finch, with sponsorship funding for *da Camera* virtual performances **from our own Friends group!**

**Week 2--Fun & Games**

**Week 3--Magic**

**Week 4--Adventure**

**Week 5--Healthy & Happy**

**Week 6--STEM**

**Week 7--Showtime**

**Week 8--Art**

**Week 9--Storytelling**

Weekly programs for all ages will be ongoing but not necessarily at their traditional times.

**“HOW DO WE TAKE PART?”**  
**“HOW CAN WE FIND OUT WHEN...?”**

**Flexibility is key!** It is unlikely that libraries will be fully functional until after a vaccine against COVID-19 is proven effective and is in wide use. Until then, stay informed about ALL programs and updates by “checking out” the [Library's Facebook](#) page. Scroll down the Posts—there's lots of interest to see there! In addition, the [Library's own website](#) will have county-wide informational updates.

**LIMITED REOPENING AHEAD! Maybe June? Maybe July?**

**Our librarians are working hard NOW to make sure everyone will be safe when our Library reopens to us all! When it DOES reopen:**



- Hours will be limited.
- Only a limited number of people will be allowed in the building at one time.
- Masks will be encouraged and available if you forget yours.
- Tables and computers will be limited and **MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE.**
- Each table will accommodate only one computer and one chair.
- The Library will NOT be available as a tutoring site.

• No toys nor any seating will be available in the Children's Room.

**SEE THE SITES IN THE GREEN BOX ABOVE TO ACCESS CURRENT AND COMING UPDATES!**



**Membership Application:  New or  Renew**

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

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 Sponsor  \$25 Leader  \$50 Benefactor  \$100 Supernova  Additional donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please change my address.

Please send my newsletter by USPS mail only.

I would like to volunteer with the Friends.

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

Mailing address: 930 Corbindale Road, Houston, TX 77024

**OR** pay with PayPal on [our website](#).

\* Required for new or changes only

**Contributions are tax deductible.**

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

**THE PLANT AND BOOK FESTIVAL THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN—**



Our Plant and Book Festival is the main source of the funds *The Friends* raises annually to support the Library's otherwise unfunded needs. COVID-19 forced its cancellation this year. Although **virtual** programs may cost less than hands-on, in-person programs, there are still program needs as well as other material and professional needs. We are especially grateful to

**First Community Credit Union** who sponsored this event again this year and who honored that sponsorship even though the Festival did not happen! We also greatly appreciate the following neighborhood businesses that provided coupons for meals, services and items for our very popular Coupon Board:

- **Bistro Provence (x2)**
- **Houston Texans—Certified autographed photo of Keke Coutee**
- **HEB**
- **Hunan Inn--Lunch menu for 2 (x2)**
- **Joyce's Seafood & Steaks (x4)**
- **Nail & Spa of Bunker Hill**
- **Pappy's Cafe**
- **Patagonia Grill & Cafe**
- **Taste of Texas**

**THANKS TO ALL!**

**EVEN MORE GRACIOUSLY**, these businesses are allowing us to offer their coupons on a **Virtual Coupon Board!** You can still enjoy these great offerings while supporting The Friends' commitment to providing funding to OUR Library! **IT'S EASY!** Go to the Coupon Board on *The Friends'* own [website](#) to make your choice. Then follow the directions on that page to claim your coupon(s)!

...and **WHILE YOU ARE ON OUR WEBSITE**, wander through it to find out more about *The Friends'* support of the Library and **consider becoming a Friend or renewing your membership!** Membership in *The Friends* shows a *high level of commitment and support* for our wonderful Spring Branch-Memorial Library and the services it provides to our entire community. You can join, renew, or just contribute on our [website](#) too! (*Becoming a Friend of the Library is not just a once-a-year opportunity! Fill out and return the above Application at any time to share your commitment to our Library and to our community!*) *The Friends* and Library can use your support this year more than ever! **Thank you!**