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# NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library

Fall  
2019

## LOOKING BACK....LOOKING AHEAD



### FRIENDS' SUMMER SUCCESS

WHEN SCHOOL WAS OUT FOR THE SUMMER,  
THE LIBRARY WAS THE PLACE TO BE...

**...AND THE FRIENDS ALWAYS  
SUPPORTS THE LIBRARY'S POPULAR  
SUMMER PROGRAMS!**

Every year the Library counts on The Friends to provide funds to bring in and/or support its special summer programs either by paying for the presenters or by making extra supplies available to make the programs REALLY SPECIAL!

This past summer, The Friends contributed in part or in whole to

#### 22 special programs

largely, but not exclusively, for children and teens. This past summer,

#### MORE THAN 600 LIBRARY-LOVING ATTENDEES OF ALL AGES

enjoyed the programs The Friends helped to provide!

**Our great Library staff plans and facilitates these  
engaging activities and The Friends group is  
PROUD to contribute to this fantastic  
community resource!**

### FRIENDS GOING FORWARD

SHELVES AND CARPET AND TABLES.... OH, MY!

**...WELL, PERHAPS NOT AS MUCH FUN AS  
PROGRAMS, BUT WHEN THERE IS A NEED,  
THE FRIENDS PITCHES IN!**

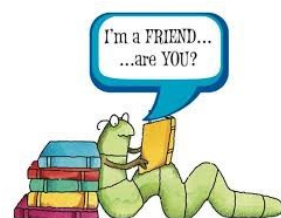
The Friends supports **BIG** projects ahead at the Library:

- **NEW SHELVES!** Our current shelves are worn and so old that they cannot be just replaced. Our new shelves will be safer, more interchangeable, slightly lower (currently those top shelves are wasted space), and give a feeling of more space in our library.

- **NEW CARPET!** Our Community Room gets A LOT of use—and the carpet shows it! Time to replace it!

- **NEW TABLES!** Our current tables are not substantial enough for the use they get and our previous tables were too heavy to be useful. Time for well-considered replacements!

**All these improvements are in the works and  
The Friends group is contributing to all these  
upgrades to our make our Library  
better than ever!**



### Inside This Newsletter...

- Our successful summer programs
- The Friends supports Library improvements
- Gulf Coast Reads 2019
- "Second-Chance Books" aka Lobby Books
- New at the Library

**Just so you're not disappointed....** The Library will close for the **Thanksgiving holiday** at 5:00PM on Wednesday, November 27, and will be open as usual on Monday, December 2, at 1:00PM.

### REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS

SUN CLOSED MON 1PM - 9PM TUES 10AM - 9PM WED 10AM - 6PM THURS 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 at [www.friendsofsbml.org](http://www.friendsofsbml.org)  
or contact us at [friends.sbm@hotmail.com](mailto:friends.sbm@hotmail.com)

*The road to success is always under construction.* —Lily Tomlin, American actress



## Kid Happenings

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

**Baby Time** is every Wednesday at 10:15-10:45AM OR 11:00-11:30AM for infants 0-18 months with parents/caregivers.

**Toddler Time** is each Thursday at 10:15-10:45AM. For children ages 18 months to 36 months.

## Second-Chance Books aka Lobby Books

### Have you found the hidden trove of The Friends' Second-Chance Books?

Of course you can't miss MOST of the selection available for a small donation as you come into the Library! But have you looked around the corner near the Community Room? *More wonderful choices await you there!*

When you select a Second-Chance book (or books) and make your small donation, you also are supporting The Friends as the group helps to fund our Library's special needs. As of the end of May, your contributions provided almost \$7,300 in support of The Friends' mission to provide funds to the Library! **THANK YOU!**

...and **SPECIAL THANKS** to the Second-Chance "elves" who quietly keep contributed books sorted and these popular shelves stocked! *They make it happen!*



**Preschool Storytime & Craft** for three to six year olds is scheduled each Thursday at 11:15-11:45AM.

**School-Age Children** programs include crafts, STEM activities, LEGO challenge, and holiday-themed programs on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00PM.

### Teens and Tweens

- Weekly on Fridays, Board Game Nation—4:00-5:30PM. Grade 3 and older.
- Monthly Teen/Tween Book Group meets the last Tuesday of every month from 4:00-5:00PM. Grade 6 and older.

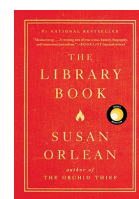
## Summer Reading Program Recap!

A whole lot of reading/activities happened this summer! **770** readers of all ages registered and most levels of readers increased by at least 1/3 over last year with at least 1/3 of each group completing all levels! **READERS ARE WINNERS!**



**"Gulf Coast Reads: On the Same Page"** is an annual regional reading initiative focused on promoting the simultaneous reading or listening to a selected title by those living along the upper Texas Gulf Coast.... — [www.gulfcoastreads.org/about](http://www.gulfcoastreads.org/about)

### 2019 Gulf Coast Reads selection: **The Library Book** by Susan Orlean



"Weaving her lifelong love of books and reading into an investigation of the fire [in the Los Angeles Public Library, April 1986], award-winning New Yorker reporter and New York Times bestselling author Susan Orlean delivers a mesmerizing and uniquely compelling book that manages to tell the broader story of libraries and librarians in a way that has never been done before."

From <http://www.gulfcoastreads.org/>

Join us!

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



## The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library

[www.friendsofsbml.org](http://www.friendsofsbml.org)

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ Please change my address. ☐ Please send my newsletter by ground 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: [www.friendsofsbml.org/joinrenew](http://www.friendsofsbml.org/joinrenew)

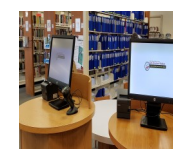
\* Required for new or changes only

Contributions are tax deductible.

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY!—If you already know about these, you are a STAR!



**A new website design!** Still a few minor tweaks to go by the Library system, but eye-popping and appealing!



**New self-checkout location** is now across from the main desk. Reduces congestion and is a better use of space!

**Children's area upgrade** thanks to a donation by *Save the Children*. Kids and parents are loving it! Kid-friendly computer stations are on their way....



(Photo taken without children to protect privacy.)



**Monthly newsletter *Check It Out*** including the branch calendar for the month and highlighting special events. Free—at the Library!

**Stringing It Together—A needle arts social group** meets the first Saturday of each month at 2:00PM



### Open Mic—Sing...speak...play...!

All ages are invited to sign up for 10 minute slots to perform. Fourth Saturday of each month at 2:00PM



## DID YOU KNOW....?

In the Harris County Library system, Katherine Tyra Branch Library @ Bear Creek is the closest library to us. Based on website data, **Spring Branch-Memorial Library:**

- is 12% smaller in square footage,
- has about 16% more "holdings",
- has almost the same number of visitors,
- has 33% more circulation,
- has about the same number of program attendees,
- has 14% fewer computers, and
- has 17% fewer staff.

**We have a library that is worth supporting!**

**JOIN THE FRIENDS AND  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
TO OUR AMAZING LIBRARY!!**