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# NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Spring Branch-Memorial Library



## Winter 2020

During this time of social distancing while libraries remain closed to the public, our Library remains a wonderful resource! We can still travel...learn...escape to different times and places VIRTUALLY—and all we need is our library card!



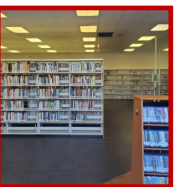
### December is a season of gift giving and receiving!

#### Gift #1—Buy-A-Book Returns!

**Buy-A-Book** is a favorite program that lets you gift book and library-loving family members and friends during the holidays **AND** is a very appreciated gift to the Library at the same time. If you did not receive a brochure with all the highlights of Buy-A-Book in the mail, you can find it and take part on our [website](#)—or you may get one at Curbside Checkout. (See the Helpful Links Directory on page 2.)

#### Gift #2—The Shelving Project Is Completed!

The long-awaited installation of **new shelving** throughout the Library was completed in November. The old shelves had many sharp edges and were taller than current library standards. This shelving offers more flexibility and accessibility throughout the library. **We can't wait to see them for real!**



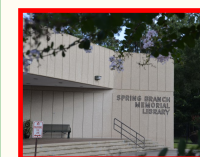
#### Gift #3—Curbside Check-Out Is Back!

Many of our Library patrons know that the Library was **COMPLETELY CLOSED** through much of November—NOT because of COVID, but due to the shelving project. Since 67 curbside pick-ups a day is not uncommon, clearly many of us are happy for the return of this service! What a gift!

#### Gift #4—The Abundance of Programs

Even though children are back in school, our own Spring Branch-Memorial Library and the whole county system continue to offer great programs for ALL AGES. *More on page 2.*

#### Gift #5—Our Library Is an Ongoing GIFT TO US ALL !



**Q:** So when do we get to open Gift #5 for real?

**A:** We wish we knew! The County Library System will make that determination and it won't happen as long as Harris County remains in the **RED ZONE** for virus transmission.

Let us all try to give ourselves and each other the gift of good health.

LET'S GET OUR LIBRARY OPEN SOON!

STAY WELL!



### Inside This Newsletter...

- Gifts Galore!
- Library updates and helpful links
- 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)

...and on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pg/springbranchmemoriallibrary/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/springbranchmemoriallibrary/posts/?ref=page_internal)

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 October 31 will appear on your Spring newsletter.** Due to the Library's November closure, our records may not reflect actual current member status. We will update ASAP.

...once you begin to take note of the things you are grateful for, you begin to lose sight of the things that you lack. —Graham Kent, Professor and Director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory



### Some program stats from our own Library—September and October

- 76 popular video programs (114 Likes) on our Library's Facebook site
- 28 programs of all kinds with a total reach of 1,659 viewers over 42 sessions
- 103 Activity Kits (October)
- 27 Book Bundles (October)

### Fun Fact!

Our Library is typically among the **TOP SIX** libraries in the whole system with the most Curbside Check-Outs!

Quite an amazing statistic as we are among the smallest of the libraries!

**Our Librarians still are busy serving us...** cheerfully making sure Curbside Check-Out runs smoothly—quarantining books, shelving books, gathering books, and bringing out books +/- 67 times a day.

They gather the Activity Kit materials and prepare programs. They work on professional development courses to ensure that our Library remains current on all library developments to serve us.

**Clearly our Library is important to the whole community and *The Friends* is happy to support our staff!**

### Our “New” Young Adult Services Librarian

We congratulate **Jackie Blackwell** on her NEW POSITION as our Young Adult Services (YA) Librarian. Jackie is not new to our Library having been a significant presence as a Library Services Specialist with us for some time. She has worked circulation and assisted with Children's and YA programs. She also has led yoga programs for all ages. Jackie will get her Master's degree in Library Information Science in December. **We are lucky to keep her!**

**Lots of exciting virtual programs are available to us ALL through our own Library's website and Facebook page as well as on County Library sites.**

Our own Library's children's virtual programming is somewhat reduced right now as Jackie has moved on to her new responsibilities, but Jennifer Finch, our Branch Manager encourages us to explore ALL the related Harris Count Library sites for wonderful programs for **ALL AGES!** As well as children's programs, check out Master Gardeners, nutrition programs, music programs, writing workshops, YouTube programs.... Our support of any virtual program benefits our own Library!

**So check out the links below!**

**EXPLORE FOR MORE!**

### Helpful Links Directory

The Friends' website—<https://www.friendsofsbml.org>

The Friends' email—[friends.sbm@hotmail.com](mailto:friends.sbm@hotmail.com)

Library's Facebook Page—<https://www.facebook.com/pg/springbranchmemoriallibrary/posts/>

Library's Home Page—<https://www.hcpl.net/branch/spring-branch-memorial-branch-library>

Library's email—[sm@hcpl.net](mailto:sm@hcpl.net)

Request online (Book Bundles)—<https://www.hcpl.net/services/book-bundles>

Harris County Public Library (HPCL) Events—<https://www.hcpl.net/events>

HCPL Facebook upcoming events page—<https://www.facebook.com/search/events/?q=harris%20county%20public%20library>



Join us!

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



**Membership Application:**  New or  Renew  
We do not share any of your information with any other organizations.

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

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

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

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address (Authorizes email contact): \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 Sponsor  \$25 Leader  \$50 Benefactor  \$100 Supernova  Add'l donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

Email newsletters only  Both email and print newsletters  Print newsletters only

(Including your email address authorizes email contact either regularly or as occasional interim updates. If you prefer NO email, please leave that line blank.)

Please note address change.  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.**

### Making the Most of Your Membership

Your membership matters to us because **our members** contribute so much to the excellence of our Library. Our goal is optimum communication with all. We have changed the Membership Application to personalize different styles of communication. None of these changes affect membership dues. Options are:

- **Email newsletters only.** This choice is the *most cost effective* way of staying informed and may include **very occasional** interim Library updates;
- **Both email and print newsletters.** This choice will provide both styles of newsletter and may include **very occasional** interim emailed Library updates;
- **Print newsletters only—with an email address given.** If the email address line is filled in, you may receive **very occasional** emailed Library updates;
- **Print newsletters only—with no email address.** Newsletters will be our only form of communication.

Obviously, print newsletters are more costly than electronic mailings, using funds that would otherwise benefit the Library—40% of Sponsor level membership dues!

**We want to provide the information you want the way you want to receive it.** We know that occasional electronic updates have been appreciated during this Covid time and we have been happy to keep members updated. So please consider your preferred style of communication and if you have any questions or if you would like to consider updating your method of receiving news from *The Friends*, please [email us](#) to let us know! (See the Helpful Links Directory on page 2.)

**WORTH REPEATING:** *The Friends* and our Library's services can use your support this year more than ever! 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 own AND the wider community. You can join, renew, or just contribute by using the above form or on our [website](#). (See the Helpful Links Directory on page 2.) Your membership/contribution makes a significant difference in these “virtual” times! **THANK YOU!**

The Harris County Library System has become **NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED** within the “library world”.  
*The Friends* is proud that **OUR Library is part of this system and that WE CONTRIBUTE** to that recognition as we support our own Library!

