

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY!

SUMMER

"...Just like moons and like suns
With the certainty of tides
Just like hopes springing high
Still I'll rise...."

(From *Still I Rise* by Maya Angelou)

As words from the poem suggest, the Friends did not let the pandemic, library closures, then changes in procedures keep us down. The Board continued to meet via Zoom and now in person on how best we can support the library. Our calendar of events is expanding. Here is what we have on tap in the next few months.

SAVE THESE DATES!

- **Sept 23--Big Give.** This is one of our main fundraisers and is done online as part of the area-wide event. Stay tuned for additional information as the date gets closer. The funds raised will be used to enhance the library's digital resources.
- **Oct 16--Oktoberfest.** This event is open to all FOL members and their guests. We have just started planning for this fun event but you know there will be beer and brats.
- **Dec 2--Holiday Tea.** Always a fan favorite! Come and join us in the

afternoon for holiday treats and an assortment of teas. Get your holiday attire ready to go.

COMMITTEE NEWS!

BOOK NOOK

The Book Nook Ladies--Maria Kellar, Linda Quintero, Mary Pettit, Karen Schmalz, Tammy Anderson, and Catherine James--have been busy sorting books, stocking the shelves and counting our earnings.

Although the team had to make adjustments during the the pandemic, they still ensured the Book Nook was available to library patrons. The sale of childrens' and young adult books during the first week of the Summer Reading Program was a huge success. A big "thank you" to Mary Pettit for setting that up.

Each month, 75% of the Book Nook net earnings go directly to the library for use as needed. Even with the decreased traffic in the library, the Book Nook has earned \$6417.58 this year. Of that, \$4813.19 went to the library as well as \$795 from the Dec 2020 sales. Most of these funds were used for digital resources which are in great demand by patrons.



GARDEN GREETINGS

The butterfly garden is a showcase of the library, and patrons enjoy walking and sitting there and enjoying the view and the many butterflies. Our committee (Comal County Master Gardeners and FOL) maintains the garden for the library. Because of the February freeze, many plants were replaced in the spring and more will be added this fall. The volunteer committee members **would appreciate and welcome your help** once a month, on the 4th Thursday of the month. The next scheduled workdays will be August 26 & September 23 - 8 am to 11 am. Bring your own gloves and garden tools. Contact [Mary Lu Zellers](#) or [Helen Kent](#) with any questions.

BIG SHOUT OUT!

The work of our volunteers in the Book Nook and Butterfly Garden really makes a difference. The Board is grateful for their willingness to give their time and hard work to support the library. Thank you!

Did you know that the Friends provided \$28,334 in support to the library during 2020. This was a combination of grants, Book Nook earnings, donations, and membership fees. This was no small feat considering the library was closed for some of that time. Thanks also to our grant writers, Dale Pillow and Montana Rindahl who seem to have the magic touch when grant writing. The Friends received grants from Pedernales Electric Cooperative and Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation for digital resources and H-E-B Tournament of Champions for the Summer Reading Program. In 2021, we received funds from the H-E-B Community Investment Program for Summer Reading. What an awesome contribution for our community.

READY TO GET BACK IN THE SWING OF THINGS?

The Board is anxious to be active again, and we look forward to seeing the smiling faces of all our Friends' members. We are always seeking new members with new ideas, so if you know someone new to the area and interested in supporting the library, share our story. Better yet, bring them to one of our upcoming events. We would love to have some new faces join us. Membership applications are located by the information desk and [online](https://mfplibrary.org/friends-of-the-bulverde-area-rural-library-district/) at <https://mfplibrary.org/friends-of-the-bulverde-area-rural-library-district/>.



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