

Summer reading wrap up

BIBLIOFILES

Ann Evans

If you step outside there is no question, it is definitely still summer. However, as students and teachers are preparing to head back to the classroom, the Georgetown Public Library is winding down its summer reading programs.

Summer is usually our busiest season, and this year was no exception. From June to August, the library held 24 summer reading programs. If you add in our weekly storytimes and other regular programs, such as Live Music at the Library and art receptions, that number increases to about 120 programs with over 4,500 attendees during the course of the summer. Summer storytime continues to be the most popular program accounting for a whopping 2,857 of those attendees.

Kids and teens tracked how many days they read over the summer. For kids ages 0-12, their total at the end of July was an incredible 15,793 days. That's over 43 years of reading! Kid participants reached their June community reading goal, which means they were awarded with the purchase of a giant stuffed animal friend. In July, the library welcomed Admiral Edward Fancypants, a 42-inch-tall penguin to his new home in the Children's Room. Kids also achieved their July community reading goal and now get to choose the Children's Room decorations for the month of September. Kids can vote during the month of August for their favorite theme; Legos, Star Wars or Pokémon.

Teens read an impressive 1,101 days, or just over three years. They also had the opportunity to cast their vote to prank the Teen Services Librarian, Ms. Margaret. Unfortunately for Ms. Margaret, she will be getting a pie to the face sometime in the near future, as a result of that vote. I expect it will also be posted to social media for those unable to attend in person. While a pie



Youth Services Librarian Bethni King hugs the penguin Admiral Fancypants, the stuffed animal awarded for reaching the kids community reading goal.

to the face is exciting, the most exciting news for the librarians is that both kids and teens read more days this summer than last summer!

We ask adults to participate in challenges instead of counting the number of days read. Of all the adult challenge cards submitted, 10 percent checked out a library format they have never used before. If you are interested in learning more about the different materials the library offers, stop by the second floor reference desk. Library staff can help you get started using apps like Flipster for digital magazines, Libby and SimplyE for e-books and e-audiobooks, or show you the physical materials available for checkout.

In August, the library suspends storytime to allow staff time to recoup from summer and regroup for fall programming. This August, we are also suspending some adult programming as well while we undergo carpet installation and AV upgrades in our meeting rooms. Programs for all ages will be back in September.

See you soon at the library!

Ann Evans is the Adult Services Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library

Georgetown working to secure long-term groundwater supply

Continued from 1

The water supply under the agreement would be permitted by EPCOR and be delivered to the city for industrial, commercial, agricultural, public and municipal water use. The water would be reserved per year for a term of two years while the city and EPCOR negotiate a water supply agreement to provide long-term delivery of the groundwater and other related items.

Georgetown reached out to EPCOR in 2022 because of the company's experience and the resources they have in providing ground water projects to other cities, Mr. Morgan said.

The presentation Wednesday read EPCOR has partnered with a property owner in Robertson County who has 39,300 acre-feet of water available. This gives the city the opportunity to reserve water rights in the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer in Robertson County, north of College Station.

EPCOR would hold water rights for the city's future use

until a water supply agreement terminates. The 39,300 acre-feet reserved would cost \$150 per acre-foot, totaling at \$5.9 million per year.

EPCOR is pursuing an additional 30,601 acre-feet of ground water from Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer. If permitted to EPCOR, it is anticipated that 5,000 acre-feet would be available quickly. This would bring the total water available through the groundwater agreement to 44,399 acre-feet, which would cost the city over \$6.6 million a year. If the 70,000 maximum acre-feet are given to the city, it would cost \$10.5 million a year.

The funding for the Groundwater Reservation Agreement would initially come from fund balances in Georgetown's water fund. New water service agreements for developers, impact fees from capital components for the delivery of the water, regional partners and customer rates would also contribute to the funding of the agreement.

Water rate studies are under-

way and rate increases can be expected in January-March of 2024 before 2024 bond ratings are updated.

Mr. Morgan pointed out some risks to take into consideration to the council. First, groundwater districts in Texas have a high degree of local control, so regulations could shift. Additionally, legislative action at the state level could further increase the risk or cost of a long-term groundwater contract.

Once an agreement is reached after two years, the water supply will be voted on by city council for approval in July 2025. The full schedule of the agreement is in progress, with an estimated delivery time of approximately four years.

"Frankly, there are not at this time a lot of strong options delivering ground water into Williamson County for municipal uses," Mr. Morgan said. "We wanted to make sure given the critical nature we took advantage of the opportunity."

Correction

This chart outlining watering fines imposed by the City of Georgetown, which appeared in the July 30 edition, was incorrectly labeled. The column originally labeled as "nonres-

ident" actually reflected fines for "non-residential" properties, like commercial accounts.

Based on the incorrect chart, a Letter to the Editor in the August 9 edition mistakenly criticized the city for having different fines for residents in the city's ETJ and city limits, which is incorrect.

According to the city, residential customers who live inside city limits or outside city limits have the same fine structure.

Fines are listed here <https://gus.georgetown.org/water/resources>

The updated chart can be found below.

Water use fines

Residential and nonresidential water accounts are subject to different fines if they improperly irrigate. Fees are based on the drought stage an address is in.

Stage 2 fines, residential:

First violation:	courtesy notice
Second violation:	\$75
Third violation:	\$150
Fourth violation:	\$300
Fifth violation:	\$450

Stage 2 fines, nonresidential:

First violation:	courtesy notice
Second violation:	\$500
Third violation:	\$600
Fourth violation:	\$800
Fifth violation:	\$800

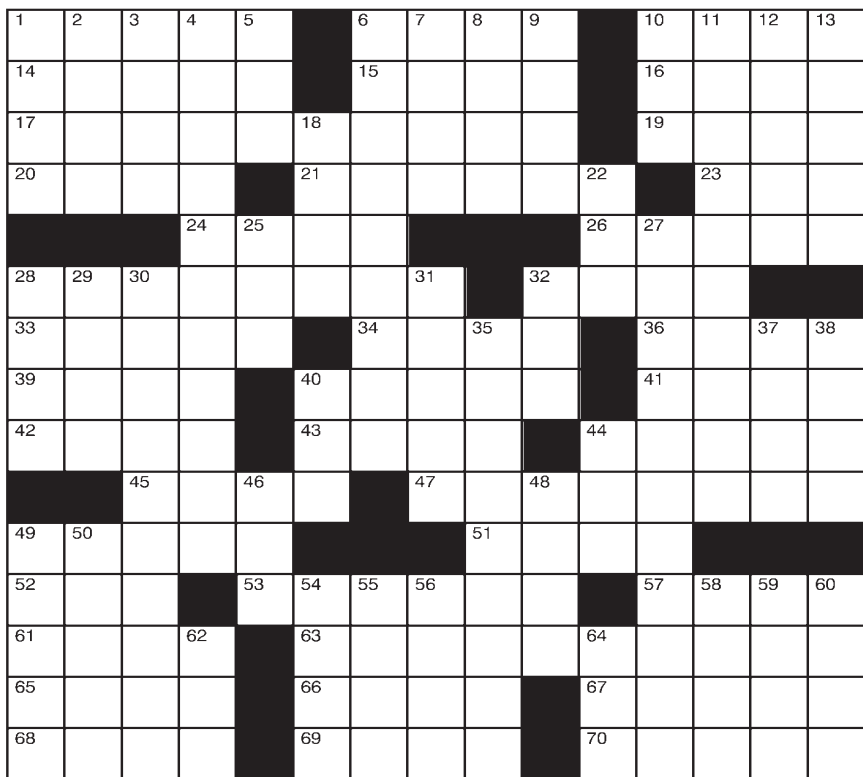
Stage 3 fines, residential:

First violation:	courtesy notice
Second violation:	\$150
Third violation:	\$300
Fourth violation:	\$450
Fifth violation:	\$600

Stage 3 fines, non residential:

First violation:	courtesy notice
Second violation:	\$750
Third violation:	\$750
Fourth violation:	\$750
Fifth violation:	\$750

AS IF



- ACROSS**
- 1 Whole range
 - 6 Scrooge, to friends?
 - 10 Large fish hook
 - 14 Marry in haste
 - 15 Dry: prefix
 - 16 On the briny
 - 17 Old...
 - 19 Nerve
 - 20 ___ Rooter
 - 21 In the arms of Morpheus
 - 23 Part of LA
 - 24 Riga native
 - 26 Sierra ___
 - 28 White...
 - 32 Future flower?
 - 33 Jerkins
 - 34 NASA's not ready (2 wds.)
 - 36 Morales of "La Bamba"
 - 39 Der ___: Adenauer
 - 40 Young codfish
 - 41 Lincoln and Rockefeller: abbr.
 - 42 Cowardly Lion, Bert ___
 - 43 Furred, finned or feathered friends
 - 44 Pittsburgh export
 - 45 Hard to hold
 - 47 Healthy...
 - 49 Silent star Pola
 - 51 Champagne bucket
 - 52 Canoe propeller
 - 53 Throw lines to
 - 57 Footless
 - 61 Crow
 - 63 Pretty...
 - 65 Name in jeans
 - 66 Skid to the side
 - 67 Ergo
 - 68 First place
 - 69 Keep
 - 70 "___ is Born" (2 wds.)

- DOWN**
- 1 Equipment
 - 2 In addition
 - 3 Suffragist Lucretia
 - 4 Sofa restorer
 - 5 Shirt type
 - 6 Being
 - 7 Big name in phones
 - 8 River in Germany
 - 9 Pinocchio's growing tell
 - 10 Joke
 - 11 Red...
 - 12 Criminal
 - 13 Quiz answer
 - 18 Detest
 - 22 Perfect start?
 - 25 Questioning syllables
 - 27 Voting districts
 - 28 Grandparental
 - 29 Actress Ward
 - 30 Silent...
 - 31 Pisa pie
 - 32 Physique, familiarly
 - 35 Spread the dirt
 - 37 Greek god of war
 - 38 Gilligan's was uncharted
 - 40 Sleuth
 - 44 "___ walks in beauty"
 - 46 Sass
 - 48 Play start
 - 49 Certain gases
 - 50 Like some seals
 - 54 Impulsive
 - 55 Cold capital
 - 56 Heavy hammer
 - 58 Flat-bottomed boat
 - 59 Killer whale
 - 60 Bambi's family
 - 62 Card game
 - 64 Half a dance

SU | DO | KU

LEVEL 1						LEVEL 3									
3	6			9		1			3	1					
5		1		2	6				8					6	
		2	9			8			5	4			1	8	
8		2	4			7	1			7		4	6		
			3				8			5				7	
		7	5			1	4			3		1	8		
9				8			5	2		2	9			7	1
					6	3		1	4	7			6		3
4				5				7	8			2	7		

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.



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