

# Library friends launch fund raiser next week

## BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

Every day, people contact the Georgetown Public Library in need of library materials to read, watch, or listen to. Some say that since the pandemic began they have a hard time focusing on a book and so they check out and watch lots of movies on DVD. Some say reading books has saved their sanity this year. Everyone is coping in different ways, and for many people library materials make a big difference in helping them get through.

Library use is very heavy. In September 2019, patrons borrowed about 45,000 physical items from the library and 5,900 digital items through Libby or Overdrive. In September of 2020, of course, fewer people are out and about

because of the pandemic, but patrons still borrowed more than 38,000 physical items, and use of digital items zoomed up to 7,600. Despite the pandemic people are still coming in, visiting the bookmobile or using digital materials, and they are checking materials out to help them stay informed and entertained.

Because we want to offer a good variety of the latest titles, we purchase many items every week. We buy new materials, replace worn out copies of favorites, and buy new digital e-books and e-audiobooks for our patrons who like to read or listen on the Libby

app. On average, we add well over 1,000 items per month to the library's collection. With our vendor discount, we pay an average price per item of \$20 for bestsellers; \$43 for e-books and \$92 for e-audiobooks; \$12 for children's books; and \$20 for teen titles. These items are very heavily used—and very expensive to purchase in the quantities needed to meet demand by Georgetown's reading, listening and viewing population.

How do we do this? The City budget pays for many of those materials, and we also rely heavily on funds raised by the Friends of the Georgetown Public Library, a 501(c)(3) organization that exists to support the work of the library. During National Friends of Libraries Week, October 18-24, our

Friends are holding a "Sailing into Success" campaign with a \$15,000 fundraising goal—over the course of just one week!

Our Friends will be asking the public for donations to purchase materials in four categories: Bestsellers; eBooks & Audiobooks; Children's Collection; and Teens' Collection. If they meet their \$15,000 goal this month, that will help the library significantly to purchase the new materials that the community needs at this time.

Anyone who would like to donate can do so online through the Friends' website at [folgeorgetown.org/event/sailing-into-success](http://folgeorgetown.org/event/sailing-into-success). They will post the fundraising progress daily on their website from October 17 through October 25.

If you want to donate but prefer not to donate online, you can send a check postmarked no later than Monday, October 26, to Georgetown Public Library, Sailing into Success, 402 W. 8th Street, Georgetown, TX 78626. Please note on the memo line which of the four categories you wish to support—Bestsellers; eBooks & Audiobooks; Children's Collection; or Teens' Collection. We thank you in advance if you can help us out at this time.

On another topic: 2020 has been a year of change and adaptation for a lot of people. Two library staff members left us last week to pursue other endeavors, and we wish them well. Jaime Gould, a member of our Children's Services Team, helped with many

things in the library, but patrons might be most familiar with her lively children's storytimes, which since March have all been recorded and are available on the library's Facebook page. And Erin Birney, a member of the library's Outreach Team, also left us last week. Erin also helped with many different tasks in the library and you may have seen her at the reference or circulation desk, helping people find exactly what they need or check out materials.

We're sad to see both Erin and Jaime go, and we send them off with warm wishes for continued success.

*Dana Hendrix is the Adult Services Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library*

## "Steel Magnolias" premieres outdoors

The Palace Theatre demonstrated resilience and determination with the opening performance of "Steel Magnolias" in the Palace Courtyard. The Palace has a long and strong reputation, but COVID-19 put a halt to theater performances until this tip top production Friday, Oct. 9. Southern charm abounds from six sassy women in a mix of laughter, sorrow and strength.

The comedy/drama was written by Robert Harling in 1987. The play is a tribute to his sister, his mother and the women who supported them during a difficult time. The production broke records at the Lucille Lortel Theatre in Manhattan where it ran almost three years. It was made into a popular movie starring Sally Field, Dolly Parton, Shirley MacLaine, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis and newcomer Julia Roberts as lifelong friends who share tears, fears and cheer.

The play is set entirely in Truvy's salon, in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where women gather to gossip, laugh and offer understanding to each other in a man-free setting. The six strong characters really bring the story to life. Overeager, dippy assistant Annelle joins outspoken Truvy in catering to the beauty needs of the small town clients. The storyline revolves around protective mom M'Lynn and her sweet daughter Shelby. Quirky Ouiser and wise widow Claire round out the gal pals. The hodgepodge group discuss husbands, lovers and sons in hilarious one liners but later lean on one another when tragedy strikes.

A double cast allows more performers the opportunity to return to the stage. Opening night's all-female cast perfectly portrayed six steely strong friends sharing beauty parlor wit and wisdom. Quick quips kept the audience laughing.

Clairee reflects, "The only thing



Dede and Michael Leeds of Georgetown celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary at the Palace Theater opening night of "Steel Magnolias" on Friday, October 9.

that separates us from the animals is our ability to accessorize."

Shelby states, "I would rather have 30 minutes of 'wonderful' than a lifetime of 'nothing special.'" Who needs a therapist when you have beauty salon friends?

Kudos to the clever backstage crew for creating a convincing 1980s beauty parlor on the outdoor stage. The Palace Courtyard, behind the theater building, is nestled in between two buildings with an oak tree and lights hanging from above. As the sun set, stage lighting adjusted smoothly and flawlessly. Face shields, worn by the cast, were quickly forgotten as the storyline developed, and Georgetown street noises could be imagined as sounds heard outside the beauty par-

lor. Chairs were properly distanced and guests brought snacks or purchased them on site. Even the playbill was delivered in a digital format. Comfortable fall temperatures made the opening night performance under the stars quite enjoyable.

Having theater return to Georgetown is truly a gift and responsible efforts to keep everyone safe are much appreciated. The heartwarming storyline in "Steel Magnolias" runs parallel to the resilience and determination of the Palace cast and crew bringing live theater to the community in difficult times.

Tickets for "Steel Magnolias" can be purchased for performances Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Nov. 8. Go to [www.georgetownpalace.com](http://www.georgetownpalace.com).

## Veteran's Project at Wolf Ranch Needs Supplies

### ART SCAPES

Ellen Greeney

#### Veteran's Project

Larry Raper is coordinating a Veteran's Art Installation at Wolf Ranch.

Wolf Ranch is donating the space; Williamson County Art Guild, the art; the National Guard, a tent; Estrada Garcia Gallery, supplies; and local veterans are gathering the supplies and will work on the installation.

He said the installation will look like a bunker from many wars including barbed wire on top. However, he needs help finding pallets, sand bags, sand, plywood and barbed wire.

If you can help with these needs or know someone who can, please contact him at [cowboyicmc@gmail.com](mailto:cowboyicmc@gmail.com) or call 512-554-6829. Installation is planned for Nov. 7-12.

#### Full Circle

The monthly Full Circle Gathering for Creatives is 6-7 p.m., Thursday, October 15 in the backyard at the Estrada Garcia Gallery (The EGG), 206 West Tenth Street, weather permitting.

The Sun's Ellen Greeney is the speaker and her topic is Cancer Brought Me Here focusing on her journey from cancer diagnosis to a writer, photographer and exhibitor.

Light refreshments will be served and seating is limited. Masks are required. Bring a canvas chair, if possible.

Susie Kelly Flatau is the coordinator and facilitator for Full Circle events. For questions or more information, email [SusieKelly-Flatau@suddenlink.net](mailto:SusieKelly-Flatau@suddenlink.net).

#### Art Workshops

Artsea studio owner and adult teacher Kim Hoerster will be offering a new online class, Drawing for Beginners. The 6-week class will meet online from 3-5:30 p.m. on Mondays starting Oct. 12 and conclude on Nov. 16.

She also presents an ongoing class, Watercolor Wednesdays, at 10 a.m. For more information and registration, visit [KimHoerster.com](http://KimHoerster.com)

Ted Keller is continuing his ZOOM workshops on photography. The next workshop is 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, October 17. The theme is Creating Intriguing Art by Photographing Common Items.

He will demonstrate advanced techniques for photographing common everyday items in ways that produce intriguing art. Included is a demonstration of the proper choice of equipment along with

management of lighting, backgrounds, depth-of-field, color, perspective, contrast, and shadows to create art rather than snapshots.

To participate, register by Oct. 14 at [RoundRockArts.org](http://RoundRockArts.org). For more information, contact Mr. Keller at [tedjeakelr@aol.com](mailto:tedjeakelr@aol.com).

The 620 Art Gallery is offering a plein air workshop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24.

Attendees will learn how to create a plein air painting from the initial sketch to the final details; will learn about plein air supplies and equipment, will view and discuss plein air paintings, will watch as the instructor demonstrates the process and receive one-on-one instruction as you paint outdoors in a scenic environment.

Participation is limited. Visit [620art.com](http://620art.com) for details, supplies and registration.

#### Jewelry Donation

Every Wednesday in October, volunteers are invited to The Artisan's Workbench to create 200 pieces of jewelry and personal mementos for donation to the Breast Cancer Awareness cause.

For health reasons, the number of volunteers for each session will be limited. If you are interested in helping, call 512-688-1587 or email [gabyshultz@theartisansworkbench.com](mailto:gabyshultz@theartisansworkbench.com). Please provide your name, phone number and the date/time you wish to volunteer.

The Artisan's Workbench is located at 4236 Williams Drive

#### Events

Full Circle Gathering at The EGG, 6-7 p.m., Oct. 15

Beauty in Decay at Smith Performance Center 5-7 p.m., Oct. 23

Wes Odell reception at Liberty Hill Visitor Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 21

#### Open Calls

Tiny Treasures at Downtowner deadline is Nov. 1

Honoring All Who Served at the EGG deadline is Nov. 1

Animal Shelter Mural design deadline is November 30.

#### Local Exhibits

Far Country at TAGat120 Art in Taylor to Oct. 17

Art Hop XIII at the library and Art Center to Oct. 31

WCAG exhibit at WilCo Jester Annex to Nov. 3

Gifted Sight at Downtowner to Nov. 20

Pandemic Perspectives at Downtowner to Nov. 22

Wes Odell's Cavalry photo exhibit at Liberty Hill to Nov. 30

[ellen@wilcosun.com](mailto:ellen@wilcosun.com)

## PETS OF THE WEEK



TRAMP



TWINKLE



RUBY



VISERION

**Tramp**, 1, is a dapper young fellow in search of a place to call his own. He's a sucker for a long walk, a treat and a tennis ball. Tramp is a young guy who is learning the ropes about life, love and how to be a dog. He'd love a family that will be active and play with him and teach him things. Tramp is smart and will thrive with consistency and structure. Just look at that adorable face.

**Twinkle**, 5, is a star. Who wouldn't want to meet such a stunning kitty? Twinkle

came into the shelter as a stray, and now she would love nothing more than to find a family of her very own. According to shelter volunteers, Twinkle is a bit reserved but very sweet. Although shy at first, it takes her very little time to warm up to people, and then she's a calm lady with a tiny little purr that will melt the coldest of hearts. She'll even make biscuits for you when you start petting her.

The Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter is open by appointment only.

Email [adoption@wilco.org](mailto:adoption@wilco.org) to meet Tramp or Twinkle.

**Ruby**, 5, is a smart and active Catahoula mix who wants to be the center of everything. She knows sit, shake, high five, stay and walks well on a leash when not around other dogs. Ruby loves to play ball and bring it back to you, and she loves to give high fives. She does not get along with other dogs, cats or children. She wants to be your one and only. She has heartworms so, if you adopt her, she comes with a

year's worth of heartworm treatment.

**Viserion**, 1, is a loving, active and handsome cat. He likes laps and will follow you around to encourage you to make one. Then he will purr to keep you there. Viserion is a shelter favorite because he has so much character. He can even open doors.

Georgetown Animal Shelter is conducting business by appointment only. Visit [pets.georgetown.org](http://pets.georgetown.org) for the list of available pets and how to meet them.

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