Library closed for inventory November 6-11

Public Notice

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Library staff and volunteers are very motivated to keep our shelves in good order and to ensure that our online catalog is accurate. When we complete our inventory, we feel great about the quality of service we can offer the public when we reopen our doors. As we are working towards a shared goal, it provides a bit of team building, too. Inventory can be tedious, but we make it fun by thinking to music, dancing and sitting down to lunch together.

What data gets collected during an inventory? What can we learn from that data?

The library currently has more than 100,000 cataloged items organized in 108 separate collections in the building and on the bookmobile. In an inventory, we scan the barcodes of every single item. Inventory experts ignore items that are currently checked out (usually about 20 percent of the collection at any given time) and tell us which items should be in our set of place or missing. From this information we can correct shelving mistakes and identify missing items. We also gain useable data about loan patterns from an inventory. For instance, in our previous inventory we found that on average, 1.06 percent of our collection was missing from the shelves. We'll see what the numbers look like this time!

What benefit is an inventory to patrons?

The benefit to patrons is enormous, because it can reduce the incidence of missing items. It also can reduce wait times by identifying items that are due and getting them back in place. All the little things that add up to make good customer service are improved by inventory. We will use the information from this year’s inventory to replace the materials that we can, and to alert patrons who may be waiting for items if we cannot replace them.

Can patrons still return their books?

While we're closed, people can still return items through the drive-up book drop in our Ninth Street parking lot, but nothing will be due back on those days, no Corkscrew pickup is available, and no reserved materials will go out. When we reopen for business on Saturday, November 12, after the Veteran’s Day holiday, the reserve shelves will be filled with good books for your library cardholders to pick up and enjoy.

Our heavily used library is open to the public seven days a week. We don’t even close for a few days every year for staff holidays and for inventory. We appreciate that members of the public are very understanding about our rare closures and taking a few days to close and inventory our collections helps us to take good care of the resources our patrons trust us to maintain. See you soon at the library!

Ann Barnes in the Adult Services Library at the Georgetown Public Library

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The Williamson County Commissioners Court, which is comprised of 5 commissioners elected by the community, is responsible for overseeing county operations and making decisions to ensure the best management of the county’s resources. The court can increase property tax rates, approve budgets, and approve contracts. The court meets monthly to hear reports from various county departments and approve various actions. The court is the highest authority in the county and represents the people of Williamson County.

The Williamson County Commissioners Court was established by the State of Texas in 1850 as a three-member commission. The court was increased to five members in 1987 and was further increased to seven members in 1997. The court is now comprised of five members elected by the community. The court meets monthly to hear reports from various county departments and approve various actions. The court is the highest authority in the county and represents the people of Williamson County.

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