

Adults have more fun than just reading a book at the library



BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

Fun: It's a concept that very ironically weighs heavy for some of us because we know we should be having fun, but we are failing. We work, go to school, do chores, raise children, wash cars, pay bills and so much more, and then at some point we realize we neglected to have fun.

Reading for fun is something many of us allow ourselves. Since childhood we've known that reading is a virtuous pursuit so we feel less guilt about taking time to ourselves to read. But what if you are ready to take the reintroduction of fun in your life one step further? There is a group of library staff who are all about it: the Adultish team.

"Our Adultish program- ming," cataloging librarian Kristina Gonzales Zepeda sa, "is for patrons 18 and up and it offers the chance for adults to be a little bit creative, a little bit silly and maybe not act their age for a few hours."

When she was hired at the library in 2016, Ms. Zepeda says, "I really wanted to offer some more light-hearted events." The group has organized a Hal-

loween Costume Construction Party, a Holiday Spirits tasting, a Valentine's Day Coffee & Crafts and a Tap into Spring beer tasting, too. An April Hoppy Hour petting zoo with rabbits, chicks, turtles, and more for adults to hold and cuddle as they recover from the stress of doing their federal taxes had over 100 people in attendance.

At their tasting events, the Adultish crew offers each guest one-ounce tastes of beer, cider or wine. "We have served red wine, white wine, rosé, cider, mead (donated from a local meadery — thanks Meridian Hive), shandy, porter and IPA," Zepeda said. The amounts are small but the fun is big. And coming up this summer, the Adultish crew will offer an Adult Summer Reading Program. Stay tuned for details.

Meantime, another opportunity for grown-up fun coming up soon is our Through the Looking Glass event, a joint fund-raiser benefiting the Georgetown Public Library and Assistance League of Georgetown Area at 6 p.m. May 19. Proceeds will support both organizations' efforts on behalf of children in the community. The food will be inspired by the Mad Hatter's tea party from Alice's Adven-

Upcoming Library Events

- Exhibit: Works by Sung Cha Brooks through May 18 (first floor)
 - Exhibit: Festival of the Arts: Folkloric Arts of Latin America through May 15 (first floor)
 - Exhibit: Sun City Photography Club: In Perspective through May 17 (second floor)
 - May 4 4-6 p.m. Sun City Photography Club artist reception
 - May 5 10:30-11:30 a.m. Magician Kent Cummins and the Amazing Adele
 - May 8 7 p.m. Reducing CO2 Pollution for Monarchs and Humans, with Prof. Emily Northrop, Southwestern University
 - May 15 Deadline for submission of art exhibit proposals for 2019
 - May 19 6 p.m. Through the Looking Glass fund-raiser (library closes at noon)
 - May 20- June 29: Exhibit: Carol Light: Ebb and Flow: Fifty Years of Painting and Drawing(second floor)
 - May 20 2 p.m. Live Music at the Library: Gilbert & Sullivan Austin: G&S Radio Mystery Theatre Presents Ruddigore
 - May 20 4-6 p.m. Carol Light artist reception
- Consult the Library Events Calendar at library.georgetown.org for more information about these and other library programs such as kids' storytimes and regular teen and adult programs.

formers from Gilbert and Sullivan Austin will be in the library for a 2 p.m. performance in the lobby — a topsy-turvy spin on old-time radio shows in a musical revue comprised of Gilbert and Sullivan favorites. The show will feature musical highlights from Gilbert and Sullivan Austin's summer production of Ruddigore, a Victorian melodrama with villains, innocent maidens, dashing heroes and ghosts. This afternoon of merriment is sure to delight with fun audience interaction, classic British comedy, and catchy tunes.

And immediately after the Gilbert and Sullivan performance, the public is invited to step upstairs for the 4 p.m. opening reception of a very special exhibit by artist Carol Light. The exhibit is called Ebb and Flow: Fifty Years of Painting and Drawing, and it will be an event to remember. A chance to visit with Carol at the reception is a rare treat. The same week, she will be celebrating a birthday, too! Stop by and enjoy the exhibit, refreshments and conversation about art and life.

It's time to renew your acquaintance with fun, guilt-free ... so we'll see you in the library!

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Cinco de Mayo fund-raiser set for new Jarrell library

By MANDY SHELTON

With the rate of growth in the city of Jarrell, not to mention the neighboring Sonterra development, residents are raising funds to build a library.

A nonprofit group formed in 2014 when third-grader Haylie Warren approached local organizations and the city council about starting a library. A nonprofit group formed that November in Jarrell become a reality. The Community Library of Northern Williamson County formed to provide residents with more meeting spaces, children's programs and over-



Mandy Shelton

President Julia Dade calls to order the Community Library of Northern Williamson County board meeting in Jarrell. Clockwise from Dade: DeNette Pinkerton, Marissa Russo, Shalom Amaya, Robin Barfield, MaKaylee Coleman, Tommy Prud'homme and Tricia Jumonville.

all access to information with a library.

"The original board decided on the name, Community Library of Northern Williamson County, because they wanted to combine both old town and Sonterra," said Julia Dade, current board president. "At some point, the city will be taking over the library as a city library, and the name will probably change."

Sonterra is a rapidly growing municipal utility district within Jarrell's extraterritorial jurisdiction. "The intention is to have somewhat of a unifying force in the library," secretary Robin Barfield said. Another board member, Marissa Russo, added that the development will have brought a total of 5,000 new homes to the area when it's finished.

Both sides of the IH-35 offer potential locations, whether it be a temporary, permanent, retail or rental spot. Land is also available for new construction.

"It's just sort of conceptual discussions at this point," said board member Tommie Prud'homme. The board estimates that leasing a building in Jarrell would cost \$27,000

annually, while the construction of a new space would total over \$200,000.

On the agenda for the most recent meeting: preparations for the Cinco de Mayo fund-raising event, which begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday at American Legion Post 317 in Jarrell. Board member DeNette Pinkerton said the board decided to serve a fajita dinner, catered by Jarrell's Mexicano Grille, to accompany the silent auction, 50/50 raffle and music from the band Whitestone. The American Legion donated the venue and covered the fees for the band.

Ms. Dade said the group is making "incremental steps" toward construction of a new building, but the primary objective right now is two-stepping at the Legion. "After this fund-raiser, we'll have a little bit of time to take a deep breath and move forward."

Ms. Dade stressed the importance of creating a community library that can provide sustainable service. "Our board felt it was financially prudent to have two years of operating expenses in advance before we even open the door," she said.

Cinco de Mayo fund-raiser

Friday, May 5, 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. at American Legion Post 317 in Jarrell. Tickets are \$25 online or \$30 at the door. Fajitas will be catered by Mexicano Grille, and Whitestone will provide the entertainment. Winners need not be present for the silent auction or raffle. Contact the Community Library of Northern Williamson County on Facebook or at jarrellcommunitylibrary.org.

The group estimates an annual operating cost of \$56,000, with staff salaries raising that amount to \$115,000.

"I think our main focus right now is trying to come up with enough funds to get an actual facility in place so that we would qualify for grants and so forth," Ms. Barfield said.

Vice president Tricia Jumonville added: "It's kind of a catch-22."

Jewelry show set in advance of Mother's Day

Thrift store jewelry show set in advance of Mother's Day

The Caring Place is hosting a jewelry show from noon to 3 p.m. Thursday, May 3, in the community room in advance of Mother's Day May 13.

The organization is also offering gift cards in \$20 increments.

The Shops at The Caring Place, which are located at the main facility at 2001 Railroad Avenue, and Second Helping, their second thrift store at 3700 Williams Drive, are good places to find a meaningful gift. Money spent at the stores helps families in crisis in Georgetown.

"Yes, you are likely going to get something beautiful at a

great price, but there's a bigger picture here," says Ann Lind, store director. "When you purchase items from The Shops at The Caring Place or Second Helping, you are supporting the mission to help neighbors in need."

The Caring Place recently released its annual report, which noted that the two thrift shops make up 68% of the revenue that comes into the organization.

That amount more than covers The Caring Place's operating expenses. Additional revenue and monetary donations directly benefit neighbors in need.

"At our jewelry shows, we are able to sell wonderful

pieces that our community donates to us," said Ms. Lind. "When you consider that purchases support The Caring Place mission and that jewelry purchases in May are often for gifts, our jewelry truly is a meaningful gift. Gift cards also make great gifts so recipients can choose their own favorite pieces."

The Shops at The Caring Place is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with the exception of Thursday, when the store is open from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Second Helping is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Gift Cards can be used at both shops.

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