

Message from the President:



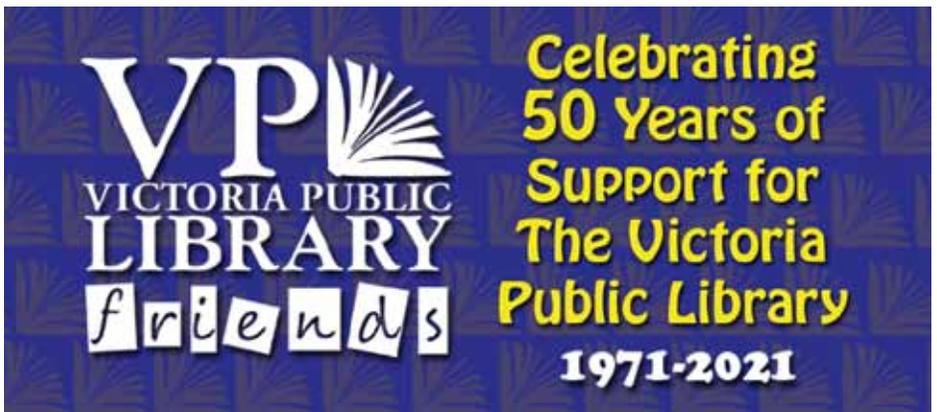
The past 18 months have shown us that our FRIENDS are THE BEST!

Due to the pandemic, we did not have a book sale for over a year. In May, we got back in business with book sales and the result was awesome. Despite less than ideal weather conditions and social distancing requirements that limited room capacity, FRIENDS turned out by the dozens for the Sunday afternoon preview event. Throughout the rest of the May sale, we reconnected with our community of book lovers and library supporters. It was beyond gratifying. The September sale was even more successful in raising funds for our Victoria Public Library.

We've expanded our community outreach this year, volunteering at the VPL Summer Reading Program kickoff in June. Board members reached out to the Victoria College Academy of Lifetime Learning.

And, starting this month, we are on Facebook. Like us at Friends of the Victoria Public Library. The page is just starting out, but we plan to use it as a communication tool to keep you posted on our events and to make connections with other communities.

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THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONTINUES



In 1971, a group of like-minded Victorians joined together in support of what was then the Bronte Public Library. The FRIENDS worked to provide financial resources and advocacy for the Library. Their efforts helped to lend community support for the construction of a new state-of-the-art, showcase library for a growing city.

Today, we celebrate 50 years of support for the Library and prepare to open the next chapter for another half century of service and support.

Still to come in the celebration:

- Friends of the Victoria Public Library Week Proclamation - Monday, October 18 at 10 a.m. Victoria County Commissioners Courtroom
- Mayoral Proclamation of Friends Week - Tuesday, October 19 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall
- Victoria Chamber of Commerce 50th Anniversary Celebration Ribbon Cutting and Reception - Thursday, October 21 at 9:30 a.m. at the Victoria Public Library



Now is the time to join or renew your Friends of the Victoria Public Library membership or sponsorship for 2022!

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What a difference make!

The Victoria Public Library has always been more than books; it is a community asset for learning and having fun.

But, in the time of the pandemic, the Library took on an even greater role as a leader in literacy, lifelong learning, and exploring the world around us. Well...having fun, too.

The Library team has done an incredible job adapting to the changes brought about by health and safety concerns. From fun live Facebook

feeds book-reading for kids to library hosted concerts to come-and-get-it crafts programs, the Library actually expanded community outreach in a truly difficult time.

Friends of the Victoria Public Library continued to work to advocate and provide financial assistance for the Library.

Assistant Library Director Jessica Berger said over the past year, the Friends provided essential funding support for 77 programs designed

for all age ranges.

When complimented on the creativity of the library team and cost-effectiveness of the VPL response in the pandemic, Mrs. Berger said, "The Friend's continued support makes our special programs even better. The financial support from the Friends takes us beyond our regular budget and truly makes a difference in our services to Victoria. We appreciate all our Friends!"

President's Message, continued from page 1

We are wrapping up 2021 with the celebrations of our 50th Anniversary. You are invited to join us at the Commissioner's Court meeting on Monday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. and at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 19 at 5 p.m. for proclamations in celebration of our 50th Anniversary and National Friends of the Library Week.

Now, we look forward to 2022 with sales scheduled for January, May and September. We have more volunteer opportunities in addition to the book sales. Keep watching your e-mail and our Facebook page for details.

This is a great time to renew your membership for 2022. Check the story in this newsletter on ways to renew. And, I would be remiss if I did not thank the many people who went beyond membership and sponsored the Friends. The donations of \$100 each are very much appreciated!

Thanks for being a FRIEND OF THE VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY!

Diana Sneed
President of the Board

Time to Renew Your FRIENDS Membership!

This is a great time to renew your Friends of the Library Membership for 2022.

The 2022 membership rate is still only \$10 with sponsorships available for \$100. Your membership includes access to the special FRIENDS ONLY PREVIEW BOOK SALE on the Sunday prior to the public opening.

A special membership table will be available at the Library on Tuesday, **October 19** from 3 to 6 p.m. and on Wednesday, **October 20** from 9 a.m. to noon. You can renew your membership, purchase a book bag, or a gift certificate. **BRING A FRIEND TO JOIN THE FRIENDS!**

Membership envelopes are available in the Library entrance lobby and at the Circulation Desk. You can also mail your renewal to:

FRIENDS OF THE VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
c/o the Victoria Public Library
302 N. Main St.
Victoria, Texas 77901

Be sure to include a note with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. Checks may be made out to *Friends of the Library*.

After membership is received, a bright blue card will be in the mail on its way to you. The card is your ticket for admission to the members-only Preview Sales in 2022.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS! RENEW TODAY!



Like us on FACEBOOK now!
Friends of the Victoria Public Library
Invite your Friends to like us, too!

2022 FRIENDS OF THE VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALES

JANUARY 23-29
MAY 15-21
SEPTEMBER 18-24
SPECIAL FRIENDS ONLY
PREVIEW SALES ON THE
SUNDAY OF EACH SALE

LOOKING FOR STOCKING STUFFERS OR OFFICE GIFTS?

FRIENDS OF THE VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY is now offering **BOOK SALE GIFT CERTIFICATES!**

The \$5 certificates are a great gift for readers of all ages. Think Halloween Treats, Stocking Stuffers, Birthdays, and Work-related Incentive Rewards.

Gift Certificates are available for purchase during sales and at the membership table at the Library on October 19 and 20. Watch our Facebook page for more opportunities to purchase the certificates.

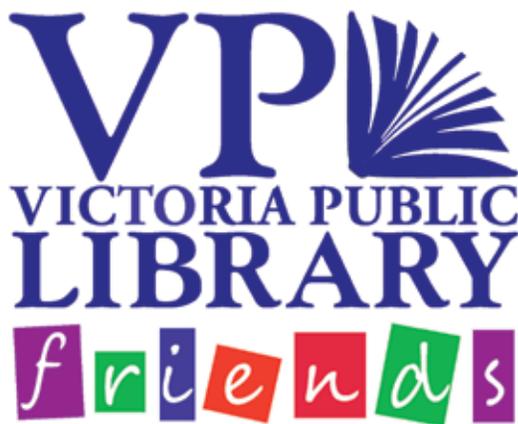
These certificates are valid for any \$5 merchandise purchase at any of the three 2022 Friends of the Library Book Sales.

Sign Up Today to **HELP** with **FRIENDS BOOK SALES**

Visit the volunteer sign-up calendars at these sites to sign up as a Book Sale Volunteer! No special skills required - just a love of books and willingness to have a good time with FRIENDS!

- January 23-29 volunteer at <https://volunteersignup.org/YX4DL>
- May 15-21 volunteer at <https://volunteersignup.org/FRPAB>
- September 18-24 volunteer at <https://volunteersignup.org/QK9KL>

Want more information on volunteering at a Friends Book Sale? E-mail questions to FOVPLVolunteer@gmail.com.



BOARD MEMBERS

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QUICK LOOK AT FRIENDS

Number of 2021 Friends MEMBERS at time of publication: 318

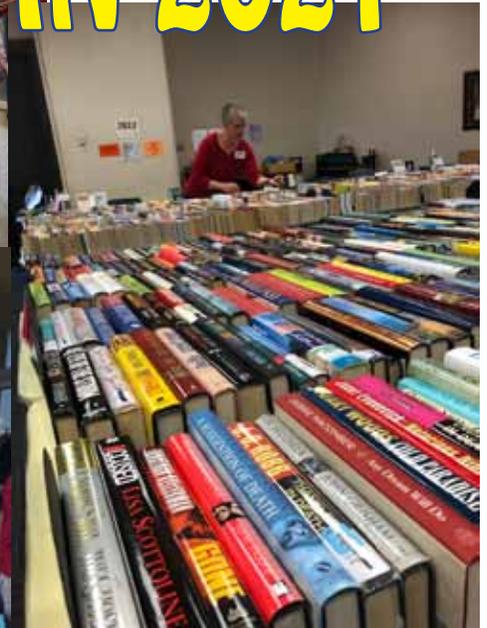
Number of 2021 Friends SPONSORS at time of publication: 47

Friends VOLUNTEER HOURS from May 15 to time of publication: 487 (Includes book sales, library programs, and committee work)

FRIENDS provides advocacy, volunteers, and financial support for the Victoria Public Library all year long. Your membership, sponsorship, and patronage at Book Sales supports our great library above and beyond the taxpayer supported budget.



SOME OF OUR FRIENDS IN 2021



**Not all the friends in the photos are actual members of the Friends of VPL, but they are event patrons.*