

LIBRARY INK

Harper Library Newsletter

December 2009 Edition

Harper Library's New Mission Statement:

The Harper Library serves as a community wide resource providing full library services including use of computers and internet connectivity, faxing, copying, a public meeting room and community information.

Library Hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Phone Number: 864-4993

Location: 23797 West U.S. Hwy 290 (Right across from Bode's Feed)

Email: harperlibrary406@aol.com URL: www.harperlibrary.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Regular monthly meetings are normally held the second Monday of each month at 5:30 PM at the library – Everyone is welcome!

Pre-school story hour is every third Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 AM at the library. Join the Head Start classes while our story readers entertain the young ones!

Valentine's Day Celebration will be held Saturday, February 6th, 10:00- 12:00. Bring your children and them decorate some Valentines and other crafts. There will be cookies and punch!

March 27th SATURDAY IN THE PARK --- live music, silent auction, cake auction, book sale, games and activities for the kids. Mark your calendars now!!!

WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY:

Since early October we have added 31 new young adult books, 57 DVD's, 15 Audio Books on CD's along with 261 children's and adult fiction and non-fiction. We can't begin to list them all here. We currently have 11,227 items in our collection. We continue to add to it monthly; with new best sellers, children's materials, requested titles and wonderful new donations from our patrons. We also have over 20 periodicals and The Harper News, The Fredericksburg Standard,

The Hill Country Community Journal, and The Menard News newspapers. If you haven't stopped by for awhile, please come in and browse around you will be amazed at our collection.

FROM THE PRESIDENT --- Martha Stevens:

The Harper Library has had an excellent year! We've increased our collection, we've issued more than 1000 library cards and more and more Harperites are coming in to use our computers, access the wireless internet or check out books, DVDs and books on tape.

We've bought a building which houses our resale shop and will eventually become the library. It is on US Hwy 290 across from the school. It doubles both library and resale shop space.

We are in the process of strategic planning and will focus on becoming a member of the Texas Library System, increase our marketing and work on partnering with local business and entities.

We are endeavoring to increase our financial security by soliciting sustaining sponsors. These are persons who through a monthly bank draft or check contribute a minimum of \$10.00 per month toward the operating expenses of the library. Call the library if you'd like to contribute in this manner. We continue to seek donations in support of the library. All contributions are tax deductible as we are a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation.

Again, thank you for your support. We are looking forward to another banner year in 2010. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. May the holidays bring your fondest wishes!

FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR --- Tomi Pugh

It is time to update our library records on all our wonderful patrons. Please let us know if your address or personal information has changed since you signed up for your card. This is especially important if your P O Box changed with the new post office, or if your phone number has changed. You can even do this at home by going to our website <http://www.harperxlibrary.org> and clicking on the Reserve or Renew Books area. To Log In, enter your 5 digit library card number, then your phone number (last seven if area code 830, all ten if different area code, no dashes). When it shows you logged in, go to My Account, and click on the address, phone number, or email address you need to change. You can also reserve books or renew books or search our catalog on line. Once completed, log out! If you do not know your library card number, please come by the library or call us at 864-4993 and we will update your information and give you your card number.

Is one of your New Year's Resolutions to do more for your community? Do you have 3 hours a week or every other week to volunteer at the library or our resale shop? We need to double our number of volunteers to be able to adequately staff our current open hours and to expand our hours to better meet your needs. If you are new to the area this is a great way to meet the folks in

the community. Volunteers at the library help staff the circulation desk, run special programs, tutor for our Adult Literacy Program, raise funds, sort donations...the list goes on! Volunteers at the resale shop staff and stock the shop, sort donations, help with marketing, among other chores that crop up during the day!

As you can see by the comment in "What's New at the Library" our staff has been busy adding new titles to our collection while decorating the library for the Holidays, holding our Children's Christmas Party with Santa and staffing the front desk.

We wish each and every one of you a very happy, safe, and fun holiday season.

**ADULT LITERACY & ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE --- Marcia Greeding,
ALP Director**

The Harper Library Adult Literacy Program ended its 3rd session for 2009 on November 17th. Session #1 for 2010 will begin January 19th and end on April 6th. Since there is such a long break between sessions, the library is offering free "Holiday 'Special' Language Workshops" presented by Marcia Greeding, Reading-English-ESL teacher. The time will be on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Students, teachers, and others who are interested are invited to come. The programs are: #1 Dec. 2, Special Vocabulary; #2 Dec. 9, Sentence Structure and Punctuation; #3 Dec.16, Verb Usage.

**WHAT'S NEW AT THE HARPER LIBRARY RESALE SHOP? --- Kathleen Keller,
Store Manager**

Where to begin! The new addition to the new building is complete. What was the addition you say? We hired a local contractor, Richard Cowie, to enclose the 2-sided car port at the end of the building which results in a larger new showroom that will handle furniture, appliances and other large items. The other half of the carport is now the receiving area and work area for the volunteers to sort, hang and price the new items that come in daily from the surrounding areas for the shop.

More good news - we have so much parking for the shop and the future library and still on US-290, so if you want to bring your truck or flat bed trailer to load up we are here to help load your purchases. If you have large donations please call us first so we have the muscles ready to help.

The view changes every day with new items constantly going on the floor. Try our Resale Shop before you make the 50 mile round-trip to Kerrville or Fredericksburg. We are maintaining our high standards of quality, good selection and low prices. Yes, some still come in an unopened box, clothing with tags still on, but our goal is not only to help with a revenue stream for the Library (all donations are tax deductible) but offer our customers a great shopping experience. Come start your own treasure hunt at the Resale Shop. Some of our customers are ahead of you and have already started their Christmas Shopping.

We are not just clothing and books, there are linens, purses, shoes, jewelry, antique glassware, toys, dishes, appliances, tools, wrapping paper, and the list goes on and on. The Men's Department has been a big hit, guess all we have to do now is put out a pickle barrel, a couple chairs and checkers on the porch and 'they will come'.

Our volunteers (in their sharp green aprons) are waiting to assist you. The Resale Shop hours are Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Any questions please give us a call at 864-5870 during business hours.

If you have the time to volunteer and join the fun please give Kathleen Keller a call at 792-4232 or at the Resale Shop during business hours. We do have 'sprucing up days' periodically when the store is not open to the public so that might be your cup of tea to visit and help this good cause with the other volunteers. We also have a great break room now with a refrigerator, microwave, and icemaker. Just like downtown, so think about volunteering!

We are happily accepting clean, slightly used or new items for donations. Thank you all for supporting the Harper Library and Resale Shop.

The BIGGEST THANKS to our volunteers that make this venture such a success.

Library and Resale Shop Staff and Committee Volunteers:

Sue Balasa, Carol Beasley, Kala Briggs, Florence Brown, Karen Conway, Frances Dendy, Elaine Endicott, Bridgit Giedeman, Reba Goodman, Marcia and Ed Greding, Gladys and Jim Jenkins, Kathryn Jenschke, Mary Kampa, Sharon Kasper, Kathleen and George Keller, Kay and Gale Kloesel, Bess Lester, Lou Ellen McGinley, Jan Miller, Donald Oehler, Sandra Potter, Tomi Pugh, Emilio Rendon, Glenda Rusin, Donna and Oliver Scofield, Martha Stevens, Carrie Tarr, Bonnie Taylor, Bob Turner, Carol Wichman, and Jim Wooten. Thank You.

LIBRARY EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Martha Stevens Vice President: George Keller
Secretary: Sandra Potter Treasurer: Sharon Kasper
Directors: Gene Bode, Kay Kloesel and William Lange
Library Director/Head Librarian: Tomi Pugh