Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the confidence you have shown by electing me president of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library. Imagine my excitement and trepidation at being responsible for this big far-flung organization! Our locations range from near Von Ormy in the south almost to Bulverde in the north, and from close to Converse in the east to near Macdona in the west, all anchored by the beautiful Central Library downtown. We share space with a YMCA, a high school, a Metro Health Department office, and City Council field offices, and we have an outpost in the beautiful Briscoe Western Art Museum.

We are all justly proud of our neighborhood branches and understandably want to see them flourish. In that regard, I ask us all to remember that the San Antonio Public Library is a city-wide system, and that the health of each individual location depends on the health of that system. The Friends were founded to promote “use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community, and to encourage the extension and improvement of its services.” As stakeholders in and supporters of the San Antonio Public Library, it’s important to be reminded that if the system improves, so will all our branches.

For this reason, one of my major initiatives over the next two years will be to foster pride in and support for the whole library system. I ask you to support me in this. That doesn’t mean giving up on our local branches. It could mean showing up to help out with events for branches with smaller Friends groups. It could mean attending events to help grow membership for the whole Friends group (and remember, your branch has a chance at getting new members for yourselves.) We already share surplus books between branches for book sales – now let’s share other assets like volunteers, information, and advice. Public libraries are designed to allow all of us access to resources we might not be able to afford on our own. Let’s emulate that great example for the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library.

Thank you so much for all you do; looking forward to a great two years!

Beth Graham

“The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man.” – T.S. Eliot
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library 
Minutes of Annual Meeting 
Sunday, January 27, 2019 | Central Library 
Submitted by Beth Graham, Secretary

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL) held their annual meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2019, at the Central Library. President Nancy Gandara called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of calling the roll, Secretary Beth Graham asked that Friends members introduce themselves and say which libraries they represented. Following the introductions, Beth announced that a quorum was present.


Guests and other Friends members in attendance included Library Trustees Marcie Ince, Jean Brady, Lora Devlon Eckler, and Juspreet Kaur; Assistant Library Director Kathy Donellan; Assistant to the Library Director Heidi Kluber; Philip Rodriguez, Anthony C. Prater, Theresa M. Peña, Carla Pomarger, Arline Braswell, Roy Braswell, Lauren Brown, Karen Brown, Barbara Mariani, Sybil Mariani, Monica Brite, Cynthia Conley, Sheila Figueroa, Pat Finley, Liana Benavides, Antoinette Franklin, Karin Pederson, Jeannette Davies, Susan Durrett, and Vicky Enciso.

Approval of Minutes: Sandra Wilkinson moved that the minutes of the November 18, 2018, meeting be approved. Delia Trimble seconded, and the motion passed without opposition.

President’s Report: In lieu of a President’s Report, Nancy Gandara asked Sylvia Zamarripa to share a poem about libraries from that morning’s San Antonio Express-News.

Treasurer’s Report: Linda Cheatum presented the Treasurer’s Report. During her report, Linda noted that, with contributions from both the local Friends groups and the umbrella Friends, the Friends had donated more than $120,000 to the San Antonio Public Library during the prior year. José Durán moved that the report be approved subject to financial review. Delia Trimble seconded the motion, and it was approved without opposition.

LIAISON REPORTS
Library Board of Trustees: Juspreet Kaur reported that the Library Board was undertaking a series of community meetings to get input on projects planned at branches throughout the system under the 2017 bond initiative and noted that such a meeting was scheduled for Saturday, February 16, at Las Palmas Branch Library. Juspreet noted that at the Forest Hills Branch Library community session, the Friends of the branch had presented a list of suggestions and requests, and she noted that their input was extremely helpful. She thanked the Friends for their support during the previous year.

San Antonio Public Library Foundation: Lilly González updated the meeting on plans for the 2019 San Antonio Book Festival, scheduled for April 5 and 6.

Featured Speaker: Assistant Library Director Kathy Donellan presented a report entitled “Stronger Together: FOSAPL/SAPL 2018 Partnership,” which outlined the programs and initiatives made possible by the support of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library. She noted that major initiatives were corporate health, including staff wellness, staff training, and professional development/confERENCE attendance; and community outreach, including Tricentennial programming, the Summer Reading Program, advertising, and promotional items.

Kathy closed her remarks by thanking the Friends for their continued support.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
BookCellar: Chair Cindy Conley reported that the BookCellar’s holiday sale had collected $4,128. Year-to-date revenue for 2019 was $6,220. The BookCellar’s total 2018 after-tax revenue was $71,170.

OLD BUSINESS
There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS
Consideration and Approval of Changes to the SAPL Bylaws [changes are noted in bold italics]:
Article I, Section 4: This corporation operates under the Memorandum of Understanding that was approved by the FOSAPL Board on January 16, 2011, and by the SAPL Board of Trustees on

Minutes cont on p 3.
Minutes, from p 2.

January 26, 2011, concerning operation of the BookCellar; and under the Memorandum of Understanding that was approved by the FOSAPL Board on May 20, 2018, and by the SAPL Board of Trustees on May 23, 2018, concerning mutual responsibilities of the Friends of the Library and the San Antonio Public Library. Delores Huber moved that the change be approved, Liz Alves seconded, and the motion passed without opposition.

Article V, new Section 5: As a means to expedite the operation(s) of the FOSAPL board in a timely manner, every member of the board is required to maintain a current email address and is expected to check that email weekly. Sandra Wilkinson moved approval of the new section. Delia Trimble seconded. José Durán inquired if such a requirement might discourage prospective Board members from serving, and Yolanda Kirkpatrick noted that any such prospective members could obtain assistance in signing up for e-mail, and check their accounts on library computers. The motion passed, with one opposed.

Article VIII, Section 2: The board of directors shall prepare and approve annually a budget covering the needs of this corporation for such expenses as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this corporation. The proposed budget shall have anticipated revenues that are equal to, or more than, the anticipated expenditures for the year. The approved budget may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the directors, if notice of that consideration is stated on the agenda. Shirley Coleman moved approval of this change and Delia Trimble seconded. After some discussion, the motion passed.

Election of Board members and officers for 2019-2021: Nomination Committee Chair Sheila Figueroa announced that the following members had agreed to serve on the Board for the 2019-2021 term: Terrence Alley, Elena Brickman, Monica Brite, Susan Durrett, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Pat Peak, Delia Trimble, Betty Walters, and Jill Zimmerman. Sylvia Zimmerman moved that their nomination be approved by the meeting. Anna Cleve seconded, and the motion passed.

Sheila then announced the slate of officers for 2019-2021: President, Beth Graham; Vice-President, Kim Cauthen; Treasurer, Linda Cheatum; Secretary, Liz Alves. For each officer’s position, she asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she asked that the slate of officers be approved as submitted, and the vote was in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Nancy Gandara invited everyone to enjoy refreshments, and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anna Cleve made the motion; Delia Trimble seconded, and the motion passed without discussion or opposition.

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m., March 10.

Branch Leaves

News from Branch Libraries

Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends recently won second place in the contest to see which Friends group could increase its membership by the largest percentage. We officially increased our membership from 57 to 60, but actually gained nine new members between Oct. 1, 2018, and Jan. 25, 2019! We had several individuals and couples who had not yet renewed when the contest ended. Thank you to all of you who renewed your membership and/or recruited new members, and welcome to all of you who are new to the BH Friends group!

In the last SAPLings article, I mentioned that Brook Hollow had increased its adult craft activities—the classes are popular and fill up quickly. Future offerings include crocheting a coffee cozy (with a heart pocket) in February (sorry! class is already full!); creating a mosaic flowerpot (Mar. 13); and “button art” (Sat. Mar. 23). There are also plenty of activities for children of all ages (Dungeons & Dragons for those aged 11–18, Play & Learns and Story Times for preschoolers, etc) all of which can be found on the BH Library online calendar. The Friends provide funding for many of the materials used in these activities. Additionally, the Friends’ recent purchases (a Pretend & Play Market, a beautiful green leaf area rug, STEM program equipment, and infant & pre-school program equipment) are being used and enjoyed by the children and their caregivers.

I want to correct a statement I made in the prior SAPLings—the slideshow that played during Brook Hollow’s 35th Anniversary Party on Dec. 15, was created by Teen Librarian Caroline Mossing using pictures of the Library building and grounds through the years, as well as pictures of Brook Hollow’s staff, patrons, and Friends. I erroneously stated that the slideshow was one previously created by Friend Beth Crabb. Our next meeting will be held on Sat., Mar. 23, at 1 pm. And remember to mark your calendars—Brook Hollow’s annual Used Book Sale will be held Sat., Sept. 21.

Pat Finley

Bazan

Congratulations to Emily Flores in our Training Office who received a 2019 Digital Inclusion Fellowship by the Nonprofit Technology Enterprise Network. The Digital Inclusion Fellowship helps nonprofits get their communities online, empowering them to meet their social, economic, and civic needs. Fellows work with their organizations to provide programming to their communities aimed at building technology skills and identifying avenues to access.

Every third Saturday of the month, we hold a Teen Open Writing Workshop that explores all writing forms: poetry, fiction, memoir, flash fiction, non-fiction, rap, and song writing. All teens are invited to attend. The workshop is taught by Erica De La Rosa and Jim LaVilla-Havelin.

As in the past, the Bazan Branch is hosting VITA, the free tax preparation service for individuals and families earning...
Branch Leaves, from p 3

ing up to $55,000 a year. This free service will run through Apr. 15 on Mondays from Noon–6 and on Fridays to Sundays from 10–4.

Our thanks to Monica Prater of Monica’s Beauty Salon for her donation of a tabletop popcorn maker. This will help us provide snacks for our various programs.

Gloria Almarez

Encino

The Friends of the Encino Library met Jan. 13 to plan the 2nd Annual Book Sale and Spring Craft Fair to be held Mar. 23. There will be spaces for 30 vendors. Liana Benavides set up a Google Documents page for the vendors to request a space. Announcements were sent to the Encino Facebook page, Nextdoor, Coffee News, Book Sale Finder, and Welcome Home. The next Friends meeting will be Apr. 7 at 1:30 at the Encino Library.

The Encino Library “Truck Fest” is scheduled for Mar. 2 from 10:30–11:30. This community event will be held in the library’s parking lot. The San Antonio Police Department, Bexar County Sheriff’s Office, and the San Antonio Fire Department will bring emergency vehicles for children to get “up close and personal.” In addition, an automotive collector group will exhibit some cool vehicles. The Friends have funded the Kona Ice Truck that will serve 100 “free” small snow cones. It is a fun, colorful truck, with spigots on the side where kids and adults get to add their own flavors to their snow cone.

Other activities at the Encino Branch include a “Tea-Rex Tea Party” on Mar. 28 at 4 and “Libraries and Labyrinths” on Saturdays in March and April from 1–4. In March, attendees will learn how to play “Dungeons and Dragons,” while in April, they will learn how to play “Savage Worlds.” The 2nd Annual Book Sale and Spring Craft Fair will be Mar. 23 from 10–4. Come check us out.

Carla Pomager

Igo

The John Igo Branch Library has experienced a number of changes over the past couple years, but it continues to deliver quality service to the citizens of San Antonio. In addition to connecting people with the best sources for both entertainment and information, Igo has been busy planning a number of new program offerings.

Branch Manager Tim Johnson offers an economics book club called Dollars and Sense. He believes that economics has a daily impact on our lives and that there should be more opportunities for people to learn about the dismal science in a venue that is judgment free. Discussions cover budgeting, history, investing, and government policy (among other things).

Librarian Il Gamini Haluwana has taken over the adult programming responsibilities at Igo. He continues to act as a liaison for the PoeTree and Mystery groups. He arranged a discussion on the themes from Michelle Obama’s book on Feb. 16. In March, Mr. Haluwana plans to do several demonstrations of the library’s 3D printing technology.

Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance continues to offer a full line up of story times for a variety of ages. She is the creative force behind several programs such as the Winter Luau and the Stick Pony Rodeo.

Teen Services Librarian Laura Herman has really been working to resurrect Igo’s teen programming options and usage. She has been making regular pilgrimages to both Brandeis and O’Connor High Schools. She offers a book group and movie night in addition to the regular Teen Time events. In February she will be hosting a Cupcake Extravaganza where teens will have the opportunity to decorate their own cupcakes.

Enlighten Book Circle is a group run by Library Assistant Cara Sifuentes. They read “memoirs, musings, and misadventures.” Selections are intended to entertain, engage, and enlighten. Igo’s Circulation Attendants are overseeing an audiobook club (A.R.C.), a Spanish book club (Club de Lectura), and a ukulele club (Ukulele Club).

If you’re interested in these or any of the many other programs Igo offers, drop in to pick up a branch calendar.

Al Rakus

Las Palmas

The Jan. 19 Dream Week presentation included the showing of the film “Southwest of Salem: The Story of the San Antonio Four” and a moving presentation by one of those wrongfully accused of a crime, Anna Vasquez. The crowded meeting room audience showed interest and support for her as she shared a 24-year-long journey that included prison. Significantly, Anna was exonerated as a result of efforts by the Innocence Project where she now works as a consultant. Friends provided refreshments for the reception.

The Las Palmas Library Community Informational Meeting was held Feb. 16, addressing changes to the scheduled 2017–2022 Bond renovation Design, Contracting, and Construction dates that had originally been announced. A representative from Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales’ office, architects, and City/Public Library staffs shared the following: construction is now scheduled from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022, with the Library re-opening Spring 2022. Friends joined Library Board of Trustees’ members, neighborhood association representatives, and other community attendees in submitting creative ideas for the Library’s renovation Design Phase.

At a recent meeting, Central Library staff outlined the program for the Library’s 50th Anniversary celebration scheduled from 1–5 on Mar. 23.

There will be a formal “Speaking Program” with remarks by Public Library and City representatives followed by a segment for “Branch Activities and Programs.” Friends will assist in coordinating a program for this very special event for which Port San Antonio is a sponsor. Plus, we want to provide some additional activities during this anniversary year.

For the fourth time, Las Palmas Friends will participate in Port San Antonio’s Fiesta de Los Niños, Apr. 20. Each year, our Friends group has forwarded the Port SA invitation and information to the other five Library Friends groups in Districts 4 and 5. Bazan and Collins Garden Friends have participated in different years. We host an always fun bean-bag toss game (with small prizes and treats) for the children and provide Library and Friends information to their families.

Delia Ramirez Trimble

Branch Leaves cont on p 5.
**Maverick**

We can’t wait for spring’s arrival. Everything seems a bit brighter and more beautiful during this time of the year. It’s a fresh start, and the Friends group is embracing it! Starting 2019 off, we recently elected a new treasurer, Sue Ratliff, and book sale chairperson, Elizabeth Birch, for the group. All of the Maverick Friends would like to thank Barbara Steinhauser, our previous treasurer, and Sue, our previous book sale chairperson, for all their hard work and support over these past few years. Thank you all for what you do to help our organization – and the library!

On Jan. 22, Teen Time at Maverick had record high attendance—20 teens participated. The Friends group is always happy to help financially support this wonderful program. Each week, the teens choose snacks, crafts, and games for the following week. We recently helped purchase food including veggie trays, popcorn, chips, dip, and Dino nuggets. Previously, the group made their own pizzas, Ramen noodles, nachos, cookies, and edible cookie dough. On Feb. 12, they held an Anti-Valentine’s Day party, where they celebrated fun and friendship.

It’s already that time again – the spring book sale is around the corner. Come help support the library. Our sale will be Mar. 30 and 31 from 10–2 every first and third Saturday of each month from March to November at Mission Marquee Plaza next to Mission Library. Since it began, Mission Library has a table to promote its programs and literacy activities at each market day. Mission Library Manager Oscar Gonzalez and his staff work with Mission Library Friends and Mission San Jose Neighborhood Association to offer a variety of art activities at the special programming for movie nights. Join Mission Library for Market Days or a movie night to participate in our fun activities!

The members of the board voted to accept the nomination of Anna Silva as Friends of Mission Library Treasurer. Anna is the librarian at Salado Intermediate School in East Central ISD. The board wishes to express its thanks to Blanca Wilkins, who faithfully served as Friends of Mission Library for more than 3 years. We welcome our incoming Treasurer to la familia de la biblioteca Mission!

Josie Martinez

**Mission**

The 3rd Annual Mission Marquee Market Days will begin in March. It will be open from 10–2 every first and third Saturday of each month from March to November at Mission Marquee Plaza next to Mission Library. Since it began, Mission Library has a table to promote its programs and literacy activities at each market day. Mission Library Manager Oscar Gonzalez and his staff work with Mission Library Friends and Mission San Jose Neighborhood Association to offer a variety of art activities at the special programming for movie nights. Join Mission Library for Market Days or a movie night to participate in our fun activities!

The members of the board voted to accept the nomination of Anna Silva as Friends of Mission Library Treasurer. Anna is the librarian at Salado Intermediate School in East Central ISD. The board wishes to express its thanks to Blanca Wilkins, who faithfully served as Friends of Mission Library for more than 3 years. We welcome our incoming Treasurer to la familia de la biblioteca Mission!

Josie Martinez

**Thousand Oaks**


The Symphony project comes to THO on Sunday, Mar. 30, with a member of the San Antonio Symphony orchestra demonstrating the use of an instrument and providing information about the Symphony and its outreach programs. Friends plan to be available with Membership information. Summer Reading will begin Jun. 1, the same day as our Friends Book Sale and Branch Manager Troy Lawrence sees this as an opportunity to help spread the word to a greater variety of library users as well as potential members for the library and the Friends.

The new Children’s Librarian Lea Ann McDonald should be arriving in February, and we are all looking forward to her programming ideas and the opportunity for the Friends to participate. There was a Valentine’s Day Story Time activity, and the Friends contributed to the Crafts project.

Pat Howell

**Tobin Library at Oakwell**

Thanks to very generous funding by the Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell, snacks and refreshments have been served daily to middle school students who attend After-School Fun Time at Tobin held Monday through Friday on school days. A partnership with San Antonio Food Bank is in progress for them to provide the snacks in the coming weeks.

Teen Librarian Karah Garcia continues with a monthly teen program, “Cooking Around the World,” in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. The cooking course teaches about various places around the world and the food/culture of those areas. Teens get to cook and eat delicious food!

Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuer will host special Play and Learn sessions in March about Zoo Animals. Toddlers and parents get to talk, sing, read, write, play, and do lots of other fun activities.

On April 9, Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse will host one of the DIY University classes for adults making coasters out of Scrabble tiles.

The Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell will hold their spring Book Sale Mar. 29–30. All proceeds benefit the Tobin Library.

Tracey Knouse

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**Donations & Memorials**

Sheila Figueroa

**In Memory of**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Walter Ague</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Newcomb</td>
<td>Cris Edwards</td>
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<td>Lea Glisson</td>
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<td>Ira Lott</td>
<td>Nancy Gandara</td>
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**In Honor of**

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<tr>
<td>Wynemah “Ivy” Durnell</td>
<td>Linda Child Nairn</td>
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Greetings Friends,

This is a year of important milestones for the San Antonio Public Library. I’m proud to announce that three of our branch libraries will be celebrating 50 years of serving the community. Events will be held at Las Palmas Branch Library on March 23, Pan American Branch on April 13, and Tobin Branch on June 15. Additionally, the Great Northwest Branch Library will celebrate 25 years, and the Pruitt Branch Library will celebrate 10 years this fall. Dates for those anniversaries will be announced this summer. These milestones are a testament of the value and history of libraries in our community. A big thank you to our Friends support groups who are participating to help make these celebrations memorable.

There are also new things to discover on our website mysapl.org. In our effort to continuously improve the digital experience of our customers, we have now implemented a Live Chat service. This new feature is available to ask questions about Library services, receive assistance with our digital catalog, and to take full advantage of the vast array of resources and services our library has to offer. The Live Chat service is available in English and Spanish 96 hours per week: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m.–8 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.–8 p.m.

We’re also excited to partner again with the San Antonio Book Festival to bring tens of thousands of people to the Central Library in celebration of literature. The 7th annual San Antonio Book Festival will be taking place Saturday, April 6, at Central Library and the Southwest School of Art. The Book Festival is a free, family-friendly event, packed with a full day of author presentations, panel discussions, book sales, signings, activities for children and teens, and food trucks. More information is available by visiting festival.saplf.org for a complete list of event activities and the official author lineup.

In closing, I would like to express our gratitude to the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library for their continued support of SAPL’s services, people, and programs. Thank you all for allowing us to reach and serve our San Antonio community.

Regards,

Ramiro S. Salazar
**TREASURER’S REPORT**
for December 31, 2018

**Branch Group Balances**

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For more information about Branch group expenses for Nov–Dec 2018, visit [friendsofasl.org/treasurers-reports.html](http://friendsofasl.org/treasurers-reports.html)

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**BookCellar News**

Cynthia Conley

**The BookCellar**

Central Library Basement

Open 11–3 every day plus 3–7 Thursdays

210-227-9519

**Spring Break Sale** runs Sat., Mar. 9, thru Sun., March 17. This sale is aimed at teachers, home schoolers and families. Juvenile materials will be extended out on to the patio. There will be many more 10¢ books to choose from, multiple sets of 2015 World Book Encyclopedias for only $50 each; reg.-priced young adult hardbacks and paperbacks will be 50% off and juvenile biographies will be 25¢ each. Throughout the month of March, reg.-priced adult nonfiction – 300s, 500s, and 700s will be 50¢ each.

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In April, we will be extending materials out on to the patio for Book Festival, Sat., April 6. We will have specially priced sets of books for adult readers, reduced vintage magazines, an extra large selection of art books on the patio. Throughout the month of April, we will offer reduced poetry books (both juvenile and adult selections) to celebrate poetry month. Our cabinet collects (collectibles that are priced at $50 or more) will be 1/3 off. Reg.-priced large print fiction and adult hardback mysteries will be 50¢ each.

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**FOSAPL officers, 2019–2021 term, L-R: Liz Alves, Secretary; Kim Cauthon, Vice-President; Linda Cheatum, Treasurer; Beth Graham, President; Nancy Gandara, Past President**

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Left: Las Palmas Branch Library Friends took first place in the competition to recruit the most new members—their branch won $50! Pictured: Vicky Enciso, Delia Trimble, and FOSAPL Membership Secretary/Vice-President Kim Cauthon. Right: Brook Hollow won second place and $25! Pictured: Veronica Rouse, Pat Finley, and Kim Cauthon.
CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Because dates and times change occasionally, please call to verify information.

Mar. 5    San Pedro Friends meeting, 5:30.
Mar. 5    Maverick Friends Meeting, 7 p.m.
Mar. 9–17 BookCellar Spring Break Sale

**Mar. 17**    FOSAPL Board Meeting, Memorial Branch, 2 p.m.

Mar. 23    Las Palmas 50th Anniversary celebration, 1–5
Mar. 23    Encino Spring Book Sale & Craft Fair
Mar. 23    Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 1 p.m.
Mar. 28    “Tea-Rex Tea Party,” Encino, 4 p.m.
Mar. 29–30 Tobin Library at Oakwell Friends Book Sale
Apr. 6    San Antonio Book Festival, Central Library and Southwest School of Art, 10–4 p.m.
Apr. 7    Encino Friends meeting, 1:30.
Apr. 13    Pan American Branch Library, 50th Anniversary celebration
Apr. 20    Las Palmas Friends will participate in Port San Antonio’s Fiesta de Los Niños.
May 17–19 Cody Friends Book Sale; Friday, Preview Sale, 2–4; Saturday Book Sale, 10–4; Sunday, Book Sale, 1–3.

Note: Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.