

## From the President

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy fall for the Friends, and it won't be slowing down any time soon! Thanks to **Nancy Gandara** and **Barbara Morrow** for planning and conducting the recent workshops Money, Money, Money. It was wonderful to see so many of the branch officers attend them, refreshing their skills and sharing their innovations with everyone.

Congratulations to all of you for conducting successful book sales in the last several months. The number of branches having sales is thrilling, especially for the programs that will be funded as a result. Make sure you check the Friends often so you don't miss any of the bargains.

The end of the year also means it is time to renew your membership. Soon you will be receiving a letter about your membership, but you needn't wait until then. Go online now to renew so you won't have to wonder where you put the letter. When you renew, consider becoming a life member so you will never have to worry about your membership again.

Make sure you stop by the BookCellar to pick up some wonderful gifts for those special people on your list. Thanks to **Pearl Banks** and the outstanding volunteers for their dedication and time.

Happy Holidays!  
**John Costello**



## Five To Be Honored at Arts & Letters Awards

Kim Cauthon

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library will recognize five honorees at the 2022 Arts & Letters Awards ceremony, scheduled for November 13, at 2 p.m. The honorees are:

### Matthew Martini, *Rising Star*

Aspiring animator, comic artist/writer, and boba tea fanatic, **Matthew Martini's** animation can be seen at [https://www.webtoons.com/en/challenge/blue-witch/list?title\\_no=450926](https://www.webtoons.com/en/challenge/blue-witch/list?title_no=450926). He was the 2021-2022 President of the Warren High School Anime Club and is currently attending UTSA. His animated film was featured in the high school shorts at the San Antonio film festival. He serves as a volunteer at the San Antonio Public Library.



### Ashley Mireles, *Art Education*

**Ashley Mireles** is an artist, educator, and arts administrator in San Antonio. Employing social critique and often humor, her work explores the environment and cultural issues. Ashley focuses her practice on community access by developing and organizing creative projects for regional arts institutions and community spaces in Central Texas. Ashley is currently a San Antonio Area Foundation Artist Fellow and 2022 National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures Leadership Institute Fellow. Her works are in the collections of Artpace San Antonio, City of San Antonio, Mexic-Arte Museum, National Museum of Mexican Art, Texas Christian University Print Collection, University of Texas Libraries Special Collections, Walt Disney Company, and Zuckerman Museum of Art.



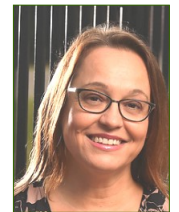
### Susan Toomey Frost, *Legacy*

**Susan Toomey Frost**, whose lifetime passion is collecting, is the leading authority on "San José" decorative tiles and pottery. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Colors on Clay: The San José Tile Workshops of San Antonio*, as well as three other books. Frost also collects, researches, gives lectures, and writes about the photographs and postcards of Mexico and Guatemala. She has taught English and linguistics at three universities in Texas and Mexico. Her user ID on eBay is benignobsession, and her web site is [www.susanfrost.org](http://www.susanfrost.org). She has donated most of her collections to the Witte and McNay Museums, the Wittliff Collection of Southwestern and Mexican Photography at Texas State University, and to other public institutions in San Antonio and San Angelo.



### Jenny Lawson, *Artistic Merit*

**Jenny Lawson** is the author of four *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Let's Pretend This Never Happened*, *Furiously Happy*, *You Are Here*, and *Broken*. She is a humor writer, essayist, advocate for mental health, and the proprietress of Nowhere Bookshop.



### M.R. "Chibbi" Orduña, *Artistic Merit*

**M.R. "Chibbi" Orduña** is a Mexican-born, Texas-raised queer poet and spoken word artist, Editor at Chief of Write About Now Publishing and *The Mixtape Literary Journal*, and director and co-host of the Words and Shit video podcast. He attended Tin House in the summer of 2022, has self-published 2 books, was a finalist for the 2021 Wax Nine Chapbook Competition and 2022 Robert Phillips Chapbook Competition, and the co-editor of



*A&L Awards cont on p 2.*

## From the Library Director



Greetings Friends,  
With the end of another productive year upon us, I'm excited to share some important San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) news.

As a result of the City of San Antonio's 2023 Budget approval, San Antonio Public Library received an additional \$1.5 million budget for books and materials. This significant increase will greatly assist the Library system in better meeting the needs of the San Antonio community, reducing wait times, and increasing the size of the Library collection. I'm pleased our City Manager supported our request for a significant increase in our collections budget. Our Library system relies on adequate funding to ensure equitable access to books and materials and this increase will positively impact our continued efforts to facilitate access to needed Library resources throughout the community.

I'm also happy to announce the recent completion of some important Library projects. At the end of September, we celebrated the grand opening of the new ADA-accessible playground and adult fitness equipment station at Encino Branch Library. The official ribbon-cutting celebration welcomed hundreds of patrons to enjoy the new facilities. We are also looking forward to the reopening of our Memorial, Westfall, Forest Hills, and Central locations in the coming months. We are thrilled to welcome patrons back to these libraries, so I encourage you to keep an eye out for official announcements on reopening celebrations and dates.

As the end of the year quickly approaches, I want to thank each of you once again for your strong dedication to the San Antonio Public Library. Your continual support is inspiring and much appreciated. I wish each of you a peaceful holiday season and productive new year.

Respectfully,  
**Ramiro S. Salazar**

## Love the JOHNSTON Branch Library? Join the Friends!

Bring your good ideas and enthusiasm on Saturday, Nov. 19 (10:30–11:30) to reactivate the Friends group. There's already money in the account; we just need your leadership! Meet your neighbors and friends at 6307 Sun Valley Dr., 78227, to revive this group!



## A&L Awards, from p 1

the anthology *Contra: Texas Poets Speak Out* (Flowersong Press, 2020). His work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Texas Review*, *Wax Wing*, *Los Angeles Poet Society*, *Allium*, *The Acentos Review*, *The Latino Book Review Magazine*, *Buzzfeed*, *We are Mitu*, *Button Poetry*, *Write About Now*, and elsewhere. He travels the country performing his work in hopes that audiences feel empowered to embrace their identity, each other, and share their stories. You can find him on Instagram @gemineyes and on Twitter @gemineyespoetry.

A reception will be held prior to formal presentation of the awards. The Friends of the Library Arts & Letters Awards were first presented in 1972 to "recognize and celebrate achievement by individuals who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the arts and letters." To see a list of all Arts & Letters Awards recipients, go to [www.friendsofsapl.org/arts--letters-awards.html](http://www.friendsofsapl.org/arts--letters-awards.html).

## Time to Renew Your Membership

Corie Taylor

Scan the QR code to renew online using PayPal or your credit card or send your renewal



check in an envelope. Either way, we are grateful that you choose to be a Friend of the Library!

Thank you for continuing to support the Library through the Friends, and please

invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join too!



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, pro-

motote public use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Costello .....President  
Nancy Gandara ..... Vice President  
Karin Pedersen ..... Secretary  
Barbara Morrow ..... Treasurer  
Beth Graham ..... Immediate Past Pres

### MEMBERSHIP

SECRETARY ..... Corie Taylor

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### 2021–2023 Term:

Elena Brickman • Monica Brite • Don Castellano-Hoyt • Kim Cauthon • Barbara-Chavez • Linda Cheatum • Tony Moore • Ann Springer • Betty Walters • Jill Zimmerman

#### 2022–2024 Term:

Paula Allen • Marcie Anguiano • Kathy Bee • Julia Castellano-Hoyt • Katie Ferrier • Teresa Kilmer • Pat Mendiola • Edward Moreno • Napoleon "Eddie" Patino

### SAPLINGS

Managing Editor .....Alana Woods

Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at [www.friendsofsapl.org](http://www.friendsofsapl.org).

Deadlines for submitting articles and photos are February 5, April 5, June 5, August 5, October 5, and December 5.

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file with photos as large as possible emailed to [saplingseditor@gmail.com](mailto:saplingseditor@gmail.com).

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Minutes

Sunday, September 18, 2022 • Parman Library • 2 p.m.

**Call to Order:** **John Costello**, President, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

**Roll Call:** **Karin Pedersen**, Secretary, reported a quorum was present.

Board members in attendance: **Betty Walters**, **Don Castellano-Hoyt**, **Jill Zimmerman**, **Julia Castellano-Hoyt**, **Katie Ferrier**, **Linda Cheatum**, **Eddie Patino**, **Paula Allen**, and **Tony Moore**. Guests in attendance: **Becky Benesh**, **Cammie Brantley**, **Alexandra Hammer**, and **Vicente Escobedo**.

**Approval of Minutes** as printed in the *SAPLings* September/October 2022 issue.

Motion was moved by **Betty Walters** and seconded by **Beth Graham**. No corrections were proposed, and the motion passed.

**President's Report:** **John Costello** reported on various meetings that he had attended during July and August.

**Treasurer's Report:** **Barbara Morrow** reported there was \$147,617.45 in the branch balances and \$120,991.43 in the "Big Friends" balance.

## Liaison Reports

**Board of Trustees:** **Marcie Ince** announced the next meeting is scheduled for September 28 at 4:30 at Central and will be live streamed. Officer elections will be held, and attendees will receive a report on the community needs assessment.

**San Antonio Public Library Foundation:** **John Costello** reported on behalf of **Amy Hone**, President. The Catrina Ball will be held on October 23, 2022, at the Central Library.

**Library Administration:** **Jessica Zurita** stated that the city manager had proposed an additional \$1.5 million for the materials budget, which the City Council adopted. New

resources for maintenance and capital projects were allocated. The RFP for a consultant to evaluate the partnership of SAPL and FOSAPL closed at end of August, and both the FOSAPL President and Vice President will be involved in evaluation of the consultant short-list.

**BookCellar:** **Linda Cheatum** reported on behalf of **Pearl Banks**: Income has been approximately \$1,500 a week with the BookCellar being open three days a week. The BookCellar has received some fantastic donations of more expensive items including classic courses, a \$300 set of books, and lots of religious fiction. The partnership with Thrift Books is too new to have much data on benefits/potential profits but the BookCellar volunteers are sending things that aren't selling or can't be sold in the BookCellar (e.g., things that have been sitting on shelves for a while or duplicates).

**Online Sales:** **Nancy Gandara** reported on behalf of **Iliana Poor**. Year to date, the gross revenue has been about \$16,200. After taxes/shipping and fees, there is a net profit of about \$13,000. In July and August, Iliana posted 455 new titles and 82 titles sold. Amazon is great for looking for a specific, unique title, not browsing. **Betty Walters** reported that volunteers are helping look up prices.

**Membership Secretary:** **Corie Taylor** reported that FOSAPL has 708 members. We are heading into the annual membership renewal drive, and she will work with John to get out renewal letters.

## Committee Reports

**Arts & Letters Awards:** **John Costello** reported on behalf of Chair **Kim Cauthon**. The Arts & Letters Awards

50<sup>th</sup> year ceremony will be held Sunday, November 13, at 2 p.m. at Mission Library (3134 Roosevelt Ave, San Antonio, TX 78214). The committee met this past week to select the winners. There were 18 applicants, and winners were selected in the categories of Rising Star, Education, Legacy, and Merit.

**Rising Star:** **Matthew Martini**, who is also involved in the teen group of his branch's library

**Education:** **Ashley Mireles**, who is an inaugural Artist Fellow for the San Antonio Area Foundation and the Education Coordinator at Artpace San Antonio

**Legacy:** **Susan Toomey Frost**, whose work includes tiles of San Jose and restoration at Landa library

**Merit** had two winners:  
1) **Jenny Lawson**, also known online as The Bloggess, is a New York Times Best Selling Author and is the owner of Nowhere Bookshop; and 2) **M.R. "Chibbi" Orduña**, who is a multi-media artist and poet.

**Nominating Committee:** Report presented by **Beth Graham**, Chair. The first meeting was held August 30. **John Costello** will stand for President, **Barbara Morrow** for Treasurer, and **Nancy Gandara** as Vice President for second terms. **Karin Pedersen** is in the middle of her two-year term as Secretary. Additional board members are still being sought.

## Old Business

**Consider approval of Bylaws for Friends of the Cortez Branch Library:** **Nancy Gandara**, Cortez Friends President **Vicente Escobedo**, was present and moved approval. **Betty Walters** seconded. No one opposed, and the bylaws were approved.

## New Business

**Approval of 2023 Budget Committee Members:** **Nancy Gandara** will serve as chair. Committee members will include **Glenna Seyfer**, **Matthew Morton**, **Karin Pedersen**, **Linda Cheatum**, and **Eddie Patino**. Motion to accept committee members was moved by **Betty Walters** and seconded by **Jill Zimmerman**. All approved.

## Adjournment

**Don Castellano-Hoyt** moved to adjourn. **Betty Walters** seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

## 2022 FOSAPL Board Meetings

*All meetings start at 2 p.m.*

When held in person, meetings will be in the meeting rooms of the branches noted below.

November 20      Bazan  
January 29, 2023      Central Library

## Have you Checked Out Our I ♥ Vinyl Collection?

For the record, SAPL's vinyl collection totally rocks! With more than 1,000 album titles, including everything from classical to jazz to hip-hop, the collection is available for free with your Library card at select locations.

Check out your next vinyl from one of these locations:

- Central Library
- Mission Branch Library
- Potranco Branch Library
- Schaefer Branch Library
- Semmes Branch Library

For more information contact library staff by phone at 210-207-2500 or by chat at [ask.mysapl.org](https://ask.mysapl.org).



## Brook Hollow

On Saturday, Nov. 19, we are having another mini-sale. This one will feature hundreds of adult fiction, both hardcover and paperback, children's books, Christmas books, and special books that will make great Christmas presents. The sale is from 10-4 in the main area of the library; don't miss it!

Sixteen members attended our meeting Sept. 10, and we met our newest staff member, Children's Librarian **Amanda Neace**. We will be purchasing a digital monitor display for the children's area and repairing the DVD disc cleaner.

We are replacing our book sale cart, which is several years old and in bad shape, with a heavy-duty mobile shelving unit. We also have a smaller bookcase, which we will be using just for children's sale books. Hopefully we'll have these ready for use before long.

Plans for a big, sell-everything book sale are on hold until the air conditioning unit in the meeting room is fixed.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m., probably in the children's area.  
*Pat Bjornson*

## Encino

Encino Friends provided gift cards for supplies for the children, teen, and adult programs at the library and purchased supplies for the button machine that was previously purchased by the Friends. In September, the Library held an adult workshop to learn how to make household cleaners like DIY "soft scrub" and degreaser spray. In October, there was a watercolor class for adults. Upcoming classes include jar-

cuterie, where attendees will learn to make a charcuterie in a cup or jar, and a family painting class that will feature a gingerbread man. We are excited that children's programs have returned to the library.

Encino Library held their Fall Fest on Oct. 8 with a petting zoo, which included a unicorn, funded by the Friends.

Encino Library's long-awaited playground is open! Members of the Encino Friends were instrumental in bringing this project to the attention of civic leaders, as well as serving on the Playground Planning Committee.

Family playdates at the playground, held each Saturday, provide the opportunity to make new friends at the library.

*Barbara Morrow*

## Landa

Landa Friends provided financial support for Landa Boo—a much-loved annual Halloween event for families held jointly with the Landa Gardens Conservancy. The Friends contributed toward a DJ and a tarot card reader for adults.

The Friends will hold our final book sale of the year in December. The members-only preview sale is Friday, Dec. 2, 3:30-5:30, and the public sale is Saturday, Dec. 3, 10-3:30.

*Mary Kay Bailey*

## Las Palmas

First, welcome to new Assistant Manager and Adult Services Librarian **Nicole San Martin**, who was previously at McCreless Library. We've already collaborated with her on several programs and look forward to future projects. Secondly, our Friends group enjoyed working with Children's Librarian **Valerie Shelley**, who retired effective Oct. 31. She had been with SAPL 10 years in different assignments.

This past year, the canvas book bags/totes fundraiser

provided a steady supplemental income (in addition to the Book Cart), so members voted to purchase more bags/



*Las Palmas teen and adult fall bag stenciling activities*

totes, now available for a donation of \$6 each.

Our Friends helped publicize the Fall (Fright Film Fest)/Halloween (Super Hero Celebration and Movie)/Dia de Los Muertos events at Las Palmas and also provided snacks and supplies for the programs.

Latest: Because we anticipate Las Palmas will still be open through the end of 2022 (closing later for renovation), we'll plan our support of the Library's holiday activities and staff appreciation at our next Friends meeting in November.

*Delia Ramirez Trimble*

## McCreless

McCreless Friends held our first plant swap event as a way to bring the community in to learn more about our branch Friends group. More than 30 people attended, including six Friends. Although no one joined that day, several did take home the information sheet and/or a membership envelope. The comments were all favorable and the participants want us to hold plant swaps regularly. We took in \$61.25 in donations, and the event provided an opportunity

to talk to our neighbors about becoming Friends. Many thanks to Friends **Lucy E. Duncan, Bernadette Navarro, Mary Alberti, Marilyn Nowlin, Cammie Brantley, and Cynthia Barkman** for supporting. Also, thank you to Friend and Branch Manager **José Ruiz-Alvarez** and Friend and Librarian **Marisa DeBow** for facilities support.

McCreless Friend and FOSAPL Board of Trustees member **Josie Martinez** led our literacy efforts by selecting children's books remaining after our last book sale and getting them into the hands of children at the Highland Forest Elementary School Open House in September. Josie reported, "The kids and their



*Josie Martinez delivered books from the book sale to children at Highland Forest Elementary School Open House in September.*

families were thrilled, and the teachers were grateful that we put books in hands of kids!"

Next up is our election of officers for 2023 at the business meeting to be held on Sunday, Dec. 4, at 3 in the library's meeting room. The position of President still needs to be filled. Contact one of the officers if you are interested. Please remember to renew your Friends membership NOW for 2023!

*Jill Zimmerman*

## Parman

We are very thankful for the quantity and quality of dona-

*Branch Leaves cont on p 5.*

## Branch Leaves, from p 4.

tions we continue to receive from our community! Cart sales at the Book Nook continue to be popular with our patrons, and we look forward to our Fall Book Sale on Nov. 12, from 10–5.

*Corie Taylor*

## Semmes

Semmes Friends expanded our book cart offerings in mid-August by adding a second book cart to our sales options.

Our carts are relatively small, being only one-sided. Sales have been brisk since we started the cart and have continued to be brisk with the addition of the second cart.

We had a great time Sept. 3 in support of our branch's third plant swap. Our back patio had steady traffic of plant enthusiasts who brought wagons and boxes full of plants to share. Even those who didn't plan on taking home new plants succumbed to some of the offerings. Librarian Carolyn, held a craft event—painting cement molds that Friend and Library Manager **Jorge Chavez** had made. It was great fun for kids and adults. Our Friends provided water and snacks for the event, gave out a few membership envelopes, collected a few small donations, and had a few gardening books available for swappers to take for a donation.

Book donations have started to pick up a bit, and we look forward to a great book sale Nov. 18 (Friends preview, 4–5:30) and 19 (public, 10–4).

*Christie Smith*

## Tobin

Our Tobin Friends group has provided snacks and craft materials for multiple children's programs. In September, nearly 30 kids participated in acrylic painting with small canvases that our Friends purchased. On Fridays, the After-School Zone shows a movie or popular TV show that the Garner Middle School students and teens select. Tobin Friends group is happy to provide popcorn and other snacks which have been served to add to the fun!

Recent purchases to enhance the Juvenile area included a wooden bear activity center and a second busy board for fine motor skills. Both of these are being mounted on the sides of the Reading Castle. In addition, a sensory bin and cover will be used at the end of the semester for Garner Middle School students, and the hope is to hold a Winter party including play snow.

Tobin Friends love to brag on our wonderful staff, led by the indefatigable Library Manager **Tracey Knouse**. Due to the increase in book bundles on display—circulation has gone up 17% in Spanish Juvenile genre. Also, the team, despite being short staffed through the year, has continued to receive many compliments on their customer service and great assistance helping library users. We appreciate our Tobin Library staff immensely!

*Alethea Bugg*

## BookCellar Online

**Iliana Poor**, Online Sales



Donations are one of the many ways the BookCellar receives items. The donations are brought down to the cellar of the Central Library and sorted by our wonderful volunteers. The books are given Dewey Decimal numbers as well as prices and placed either on the shelves for customers or online to reach a broader market.

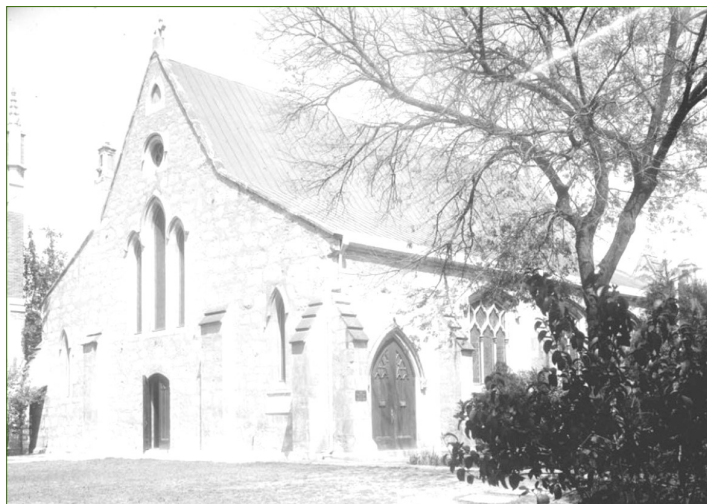
Last week, we had the lovely Deem reach out about a very large donation from St. Mark's Episcopal Church. If you haven't been for a tour, I would highly suggest it. St Mark's is on the *National Register of Historic Places*. The church is gorgeous inside and out with a lush garden trailing along the outside and a stunning session of stain-glass windows. We had the pleasure of collecting donations from the very same place **Lady Bird**

and **Lyndon B Johnson** were wed!

Taking extra care and a few volunteers, we drove over to Pecan Street to retrieve the donations. It took a total of two days to box up the archive of mostly religious books dating back circa 1877 and haul them back to The BookCellar.

Upon inspection, many of the books had either signatures or inscriptions from the authors! We are very thankful to both our volunteers for going above and beyond with such a big job as well as the staff at St. Mark's for such a special donation.

These books will be available after the holidays.



## Donations & Memorials

**Sheila Figueroa**

*In Memory of*      *by*

Mary Gallagher      Jill Zimmerman  
Paula Massengale



P.O. Box 461523  
San Antonio, Texas 78246

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
San Antonio, Texas  
Permit No. 865

## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES & SPECIAL EVENTS

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

- Nov 12 Parman Fall Book Sale, 10–5.  
Nov 13 Arts & Letters Awards ceremony, Mission Library, 2 p.m.  
Nov 18–19 Semmes Book Sale, members-only sale, Friday, 4–5:30; public sale, Saturday, 10–4.  
Nov 19 Johnston Reactivation Meeting, Johnston Library, 10:30–11:30.  
Nov 19, Brook Hollow Mini Book Sale, 10–4.  
**Nov 20 FOSAPL Board meeting, Bazan, 2 p.m.**  
Dec 2–3 Landa Book Sale, members-only sale, Friday, 3:30–5:30; public sale, Saturday, 10–3:30.  
Dec 3 Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 11 a.m.  
Dec 4 McCreless Friends meeting, 3 p.m., in the library's meeting room.

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.

Bazan Library  
2200 W. Commerce St., 78207  
210-207-9160  
Brook Hollow Library  
530 Heimer Road, 78232  
210-207-9030  
Johnston Library  
6307 Sun Valley, 78227  
210-207-9240  
Landa Library  
233 Bushnell, 78212  
210-207-9090  
McCreless Library  
1023 Ada Street, 78223  
210-207-9170  
Mission Library  
3134 Roosevelt Ave, 78214  
210-207-2704  
Parman Library at Stone Oak  
20735 Wilderness Oak  
210-207-2703  
Semmes Library  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247  
210-207-9110