

**TAKE NOTICE THAT A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LIBRARY BOARD
OF THE CITY OF PHARR, TEXAS
WILL BE HELD AT CITY HALL, COMMISSIONERS' ROOM,
118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS
COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025**

In compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes annotated (Open Meeting Act), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE LIBRARY BOARD OF THE CITY OF PHARR, TEXAS will be meeting in a regular called meeting to consider and discuss the following.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

A) Roll call and possible action on the excusing of any absent member.

2. REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION:

A) Approval of minutes for November 21, 2024 - Regular Called Meeting

3. PRESENTATION OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- A) Library Director's Report
- B) DRC Branch Manager's Report
- C) Reference Department Report
- D) Children's Department Report

4. ADJOURNMENT:

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT THE PUBLIC MEETING


City Hall is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 956-402-4100 Ext 1007 or FAX 956-475-3442 or Email cityclerksoffice@pharr-tx.gov for further information. Braille is not available.

AGENDA
LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
March 20, 2025

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of said Regular Meeting of the Library Board of the City of Pharr was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall and on the City's web page at www.pharr-tx.gov. This Notice was posted on the 14th day of March 2025 at 12:45 p.m. and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated (Open Meetings Act).

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, this 14th day of March 2025.




ALESSANDRA GARCIA, CPM
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Library Board was removed from the bulletin board of City Hall on the ____ day of _____, 20__ by,

Name: _____

Title: _____



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Pharr Memorial Library Board

AGENDA ITEM #: 2.A.

DATE SUBMITTED: March 14, 2025

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2025

FROM: LINDA DEL TORO, Secretary

DEPARTMENT: Administration

DIRECTOR: Adolfo Garcia

Agenda Item: Approval of minutes for November 21, 2024- Regular Called Meeting

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Issue: N/A

Fiscal Consideration:

Staff Recommendation: N/A

Alternatives:

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

ROUTING:

LINDA DEL TORO
Adolfo Garcia
City Management Office

Created/Initiated - 3/14/2025
Approved - 3/14/2025
Final Approval - 3/14/2025

MINUTES
PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, November 21, 2024
118 S CAGE 2ND FLOOR

The Pharr Memorial Library Board met in a regular called meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024, and following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cristina Espinoza
Anita Vela
Olga L. Cardoza
Rosana Gutierrez
Itza Flores

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dahnya Trejo
Delia Soza

STAFF PRESENT: Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Linda Coronado, Administrative Assistant
Ruby Ramirez, Children’s Supervisor
Jose Miguel Singleterry, DRC Manger
Paola Del Angle, Reference Supervisor

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER

Chairperson, Olga Cardoza, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Olga Cardoza moved to excuse absent board members. Itza Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 2. REGULAR AGENDA – OPEN SESSION:

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR September 19, 2024, REGULAR CALLED MEETING

Chairperson Olga Cardoza introduced the item.

Olga Cardoza **moved** to approve minutes as submitted. Anita Vela seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried it unanimously.

ITEM 3: PRESENTATION OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A) LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairperson Olga Cardoza introduced the item.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, reported the door gate count to date was 26,851 at the Development and Research Center (DRC) and the gate count at the main library was 135,301 and stated the traffic had increased. He further reported circulation transactions at the Main Library were 43,485 and for the Development and Research Center was 7,540.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, also reported the revenues at the Development and Research Center were \$6,246 for fax services, copies, late fees and other services and the revenue at the Main Library was \$52,304 and \$24,153 at the Cafe. He further reported on future events, Trail of Terror, Veterans' Day parade, and upcoming Christmas events. Lastly, he reported on the upgraded new furniture for main library and new computers for Development and Research Center (DRC).

B) DRC BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT

Jose M. Singleterry, Branch Manager, stated the dates and events that took place at Development and Research Center (DRC) to include Custom Border Protection and Pharr Utilities for staff training, Border Prospective and Youth Eco Alliance. Furthermore, on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, the Development and Research Center (DRC) was used by a local member of the community to host a Cancer Bingo Fundraiser.

Jose M. Singleterry, Branch Manager, also reported on events held at the Development and Research Center (DRC) for the months of September and October. He further reported the events that took place were Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance event, Customs and Border Protection, Pharr TXDOT (mental health training), Pharr Bridge Trade Talks, Superior Health, Medicaid for Pregnant Women event, Children in Nature Network event, and Hidalgo County Elections Department General Elections Early Voting. Lastly, Mr. Singleterry reported an update on the generator.

C) REFERENCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Paola Del Angel, Reference Department Supervisor, went over the events held for teens and adults at the Reference Department for the month of September, October and

November 2024. She praised the success of the Origami Workshop for being able to replicate it for the Pathway to Independence (PTI) students. She further reported on project "Relax and Chill Space" and reported the Pharr Memorial Library would be the only library that would provide over 40,000 study prep materials. Ms. Del Angel also stated Pharr-SanJuan-Alamo ISD, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, IDEA Public Schools is using the library for training, testing and other educational purposes and the library was working on strengthening those connections to better serve the community. Lastly, it was reported on local artists who used our gallery to display their art.

CHILDRENS'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Ruby Ramirez, Children's Supervisor, reported on events held for the children's department in the months of September and October 2024. She reported statistics and went over future calendars on upcoming events for the months of November and December.

ITEM 4. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before the Library Advisory Board, Olga L. Cardoza moved to adjourn the meeting and Anita Vela seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD

Olga Cardoza Chairperson

ATTEST:

Linda Del Toro, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED DATE: _____



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Pharr Memorial Library Board

AGENDA ITEM #: 3.A.

DATE SUBMITTED: March 14, 2025

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2025

FROM: LINDA DEL TORO, Secretary

DEPARTMENT: Library

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Library Director's Report

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Issue:

Fiscal Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

ROUTING:

LINDA DEL TORO
Adolfo Garcia

Created/Initiated - 3/14/2025
Final Approval - 3/14/2025



Pharr
Memorial Library



Library Board Meeting
March 20, 2025

Library Director's Report



Family Place Libraries
Building Foundations for Early Learning



Library Statistics FY '24- '25 YTD

Main Library Door Count	67,346
DRC Library Door Count	8,867
Total	76,213
Main Library Circulation	21,330
DRC Library Circulation	2,781
Main Library Revenue	\$16,217
DRC Library Revenue	\$2,847
Café 121	\$8,616

Library Budget FY '24-25

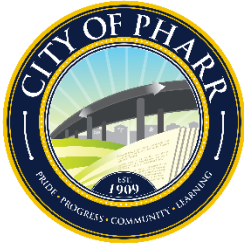
Amount Budgeted	\$1,668,400
YTD Expenses	\$523,790
Percent Used	31%

Library Recap

- **Goals for FY '24-'25**
 - **Increase programming**
 - **Quality programs for Teens & Adults**
- **Providing a quality library experience and customer service**
- **Participated in multiple city events**
- **Repair/ Purchase coffee machine (New \$7,200)**

Budgeted Projects for main and DRC:

- * **Roof maintenance at main**
- * **Restripe parking lots at both Main & DRC**
- * **Steam clean entire 1st floor carpeting. (Completed Children's Area)**
- * **Refinished lounge & Children's workroom floors.**



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Pharr Memorial Library Board

AGENDA ITEM #: 3.B.

DATE SUBMITTED: March 14, 2025

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2025

FROM: LINDA DEL TORO, Secretary

DEPARTMENT: Library

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: DRC Branch Manager's Report

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Issue:

Fiscal Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

ROUTING:

LINDA DEL TORO
Adolfo Garcia

Created/Initiated - 3/14/2025
Final Approval - 3/14/2025

Events held at the DRC for the month of January 2025

Jan 6 – P.S-J.A Counselling Department

Jan 7 – Customs Border Protection

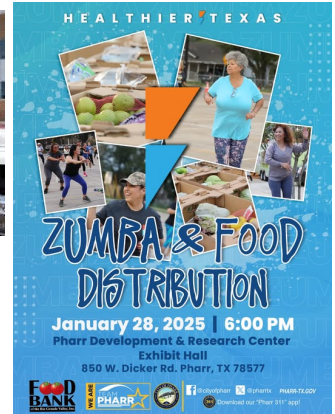
Jan 8 – U.T.R.G.V Mobile Health Unit

Jan 15,16 – Bridge Connect

Jan 22 – Pharr Healthier Texas (Jones Box-bad weather site)

Jan 24 – Pharr EDC

Jan 28 – Pharr Healthier Texas Zumba & Food Distribution



Events held at the DRC for the month of February 2025

Feb 6 – Customs Border Protection
Border Perspectives

Feb 19 – Hidalgo County Tax Office

Feb 20 – Bridge Connect
Border Perspectives

Feb 24 – Border Perspectives





AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Pharr Memorial Library Board

AGENDA ITEM #: 3.C.

DATE SUBMITTED: March 14, 2025

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2025

FROM: LINDA DEL TORO, Secretary

DEPARTMENT: Library

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Reference Department Report

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Issue:

Fiscal Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

ROUTING:

LINDA DEL TORO
Adolfo Garcia

Created/Initiated - 3/14/2025
Final Approval - 3/14/2025

TEEN AND ADULT PROGRAMS & EVENTS - REPORT**JAN - FEB 2025**

TEENS (12 – 18)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Description / Purpose</i>	<i>Participants</i>
01/28/25	Roll with It: Sushi Making	Teaching basics to make veggie sushi rolls	29
02/25/25	Mini Sketchbook	Creating quick sketches with timed prompts	11

ADULTS (18+)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Description / Purpose</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Wednesdays	Computer Assistance	One-on-one help with computer/Internet basics	56
Mondays	The Feel-Good Book Club	Encourages self-improvement and spirituality	53
Wednesdays	Hub City Toastmasters	To learn and practice public speaking skills	39
Thursdays	Club de Lectura (CLAAP)	Promotes self-help and peer-support	37 +VIRTUAL
Once a Month	Beyond Borders Book Club	Advocates for social change through reading	11

MIXED (12+)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Description / Purpose</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Saturdays	Roll for Turaco RPG Club	Encourages storytelling and teamwork	11
01/21/25	From Numbers to Art	Creating art w/ paint by the number's technique	5
01/30/25 02/06/25	Art & Music Demo (2 sessions)	Tibetan singing bowls, gongs, and a meditation session along with live painting demonstration	14 23
02/13/25	Dip into Valentines	Crafting chocolate-covered sweets	27
02/20/25	Meet the Author	Local writer, Anthony S. Parker, presenting YA Fiction self-published works	28

Reference Team: Paola Del Angel (Supervisor), Jaime Serna (FT), Olivia Salazar (FT), Enrique Martinez (FT), Aaron Salinas (PT), Natalia Rodriguez (PT)

TEEN AND ADULT PROGRAMS & EVENTS - CALENDAR

MARCH 2025											
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
PROGRAMS WILL BE OFFERED WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. ACTIVITY SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVE BASIS. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT AT 956-402-4650.											
2	ADULTS Feel-Good Book Club 10 am	3	4	ADULTS HUB City Toastmasters: Public Speaking Session 12 pm Computer Assistance 10 am - 7 pm	5	ADULTS (CLAAP) Club de Lectura Autodidacta y de Autoayuda Practico 6 pm					
9	ADULTS Feel-Good Book Club 10 am	10	ADULTS & TEENS St. Patrick's Day Sweet Treat 6 pm	11	ADULTS HUB City Toastmasters: Public Speaking Session 12 pm Computer Assistance 10 am - 7 pm	12	ADULTS (CLAAP) Club de Lectura Autodidacta y de Autoayuda Practico 6 pm	13	14	ADULTS & TEENS Role Playing Game Club 2 pm	15
16	ADULTS Feel-Good Book Club 10 am	17	TEENS Popup Watercolor Bookmarks 6 pm	18	ADULTS HUB City Toastmasters: Public Speaking Session 12 pm Computer Assistance 10 am - 7 pm	19	ADULTS Club de Lectura 6 pm - 8 pm Author Talk: Dr. Jonathan Flores Starts @ 6 pm	20	21	22	
23	ADULTS Feel-Good Book Club 10 am	24	TEENS Shimmering Spring Art 6 pm	25	ADULTS HUB City Toastmasters: Public Speaking Session 12 pm Computer Assistance 10 am - 7 pm	26	ADULTS (CLAAP) Club de Lectura Autodidacta y de Autoayuda Practico 6 pm	27	28	ADULTS & TEENS Role Playing Game Club 2 pm	29
30	ADULTS Feel-Good Book Club 10 am	31	Calling all Teen book lovers! Want to create a Teen (13+) YA Book Club at the library with snacks, free books, and awesome activities? Start the conversation with the Reference Department or fill out our survey to make it happen! Surveys will be located at any PML library desk and near the 2nd floor graphic novel area.								

TEEN EVENTS

POPUWATERCOLOR BOOKMARKS
(Tuesday, March 18th @ 6 PM)
- Get ready to make your bookmarks pop with vibrant watercolor art.

SHIMMERING SPRING ART
(Tuesday, March 25th @ 6 PM)
- Turn your artwork into a sparkling masterpiece using only glitter to add color and shine!

ADULT EVENTS

FEEL GOOD BOOK CLUB FOR WOMEN
(Mondays @ 10 AM)
- Embrace your spirituality through devotionals based on biblical scriptures.

COMPUTER ASSISTANCE
(Wednesdays by appointment)
- Want to learn how to use the computer or need help with an email/resume? Register for one-on one assistance.

HUB CITY TOASTMASTERS
(Wednesdays @ 12 PM)
- Learn more by visiting these public speaking sessions.

CLAAP: Club de Lectura Autodidacta y de Autoayuda | (Thursdays @ 6:30 PM)
- Sharing the love of reading with a spanish book.

ADULTS & TEENS EVENTS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SWEET TREAT
(Tuesday March 11th @ 6 PM)
- Feeling lucky? Let's whip up a quick, festive St. Patrick's Day treat that is sweet and simple!

RPG CLUB: ROLL FOR TURACO
(3rd & 4th Saturday @ 2 PM)
- Embark on a journey filled with adventure and excitement. All you need is your imagination.

**AUTHOR TALK:
DR. JONATHAN FLORES**

Dr. Flores' book, *In the Arena*, offers valuable insights into the challenges, setbacks, and triumphs that define the leadership journey.

**Thurs., March 20th: Starts at 6 PM
1st floor Rotunda Area**

STAY IN THE LOOP BY FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK!



PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY
121 E. CHEROKEE AVE. PHARR, TX 78577
(956) 402-4650

MAR CH

**EVENTS FOR
TEENS &
ADULTS**



Author *Talk*

DR. JONATHAN FLORES

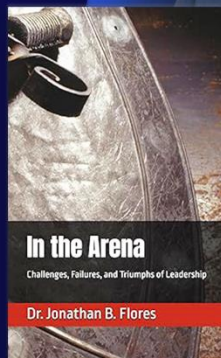
MARCH 20 | 6PM

Pharr Memorial Library
121 E. Cherokee Ave. Pharr, TX
1st floor Rotunda Area

Join us for an inspiring session with local author and Pharr's City Manager, Dr. Jonathan Flores!

Whether you're currently in a leadership position or aspire to be one in the future, *In the Arena* offers valuable insights into the challenges, setbacks, and triumphs that define the leadership journey.

**Light refreshments will be provided.*



@cityofpharr



@pharrtx

PHARR-TX.GOV



Download our "Pharr 311" app!



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Pharr Memorial Library Board

AGENDA ITEM #: 3.D.

DATE SUBMITTED: March 14, 2025

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2025

FROM: LINDA DEL TORO, Secretary

DEPARTMENT: Library

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Children's Department Report

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Issue:

Fiscal Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

ROUTING:

LINDA DEL TORO
Adolfo Garcia

Created/Initiated - 3/14/2025
Final Approval - 3/14/2025

Children's

November 2024 – March 2025

Pharr Memorial Library + Development and Research Center Children's
Department Report

Date:
March 20th, 2025

KEY INFORMATION

- **Program Statistics: November, December, January, February, and March**
 - Monthly Division KPIs and Special Events/Programs

- **Coming Up**
 - Events, Daily Programs, and Grant Opportunities

- **Relevant Resources**
 - Seed Libraries at Public Libraries are Growing

PROGRAM STATISTICS (PML & DRC)

- **November**
 - Impressions: **1,020**
 - Programs: **89**
 - General: **52** Toddler: **37**
 - General Attendees: **491** Toddler Attendees: **89**
 - Workshop Attendees: **56**
- **December**
 - Impressions: **1,191**
 - Programs: **90**
 - General: **53** Toddler: **37**
 - General Attendees: **159** Toddler Attendees: **97**
 - Workshop/Christmas Night at the Library Attendees: **340**
 - Partners: **11 on-site**
 - Gift Donors: **City of Pharr, D&M Cleaners, On The Grill, Peter Piper Pizza, and Chick-Fil-A of Pharr**
- **January**
 - Impressions: **831**
 - Programs: **104**
 - General: **54** Toddler: **50**
 - General Attendees: **257** Toddler Attendees: **157**
 - Workshop Attendees: **17**
- **February**
 - Impressions: **1,180**
 - Programs: **94**
 - General: **50** Toddler: **44**
 - General Attendees: **452** Toddler Attendees: **269**
 - Workshop Attendees: **109**

- **March (Projected)**
 - Impressions: **1,200s**
 - Programs: **96**
 - General: **61** Toddler: **36**
 - General Attendees: **450s** Toddler Attendees: **250s**
 - Workshop Attendees/Dr. Seuss Attending: **400**
 - Partners: **25 on-site**
 - Gift Donors: **City of Pharr and Partners**

Toddler Calendar

Children's "DRC" will be held at the DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER, 850 W. DICKER RD. PHARR, TX 78577 - (956) 402 - 4461
 Children's "EML" will be held at the PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 121 E. CHEROKEE AVE. PHARR, TX 78577 - (956) 402 - 4460
 SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED, ALL-DAY ACTIVITIES WILL COMMENCE DURING LIBRARY OPERATING HOURS

General Children's Calendar

Children's "DRC" will be held at the DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER, 850 W. DICKER RD. PHARR, TX 78577 - (956) 402 - 4461
 Children's "EML" will be held at the PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 121 E. CHEROKEE AVE. PHARR, TX 78577 - (956) 402 - 4460
 SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED, ALL-DAY ACTIVITIES WILL COMMENCE DURING LIBRARY OPERATING HOURS

March Spring Workshop

Pharr Memorial Library
 CHILDREN'S
Spring
 WORKSHOP
 JOIN THE CHILDREN'S TEAM AS WE WELCOME SPRING WITH OUR FANTASTIC FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORKSHOPS!
MARCH 8 | 2 - 4 PM
 PHARR DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER
 850 W. Dicker Rd. Pharr, TX
MARCH 22 | 2 - 4 PM
 PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY
 NORTHSTAR ROOM
 121 E. Cherokee Ave. Pharr, TX

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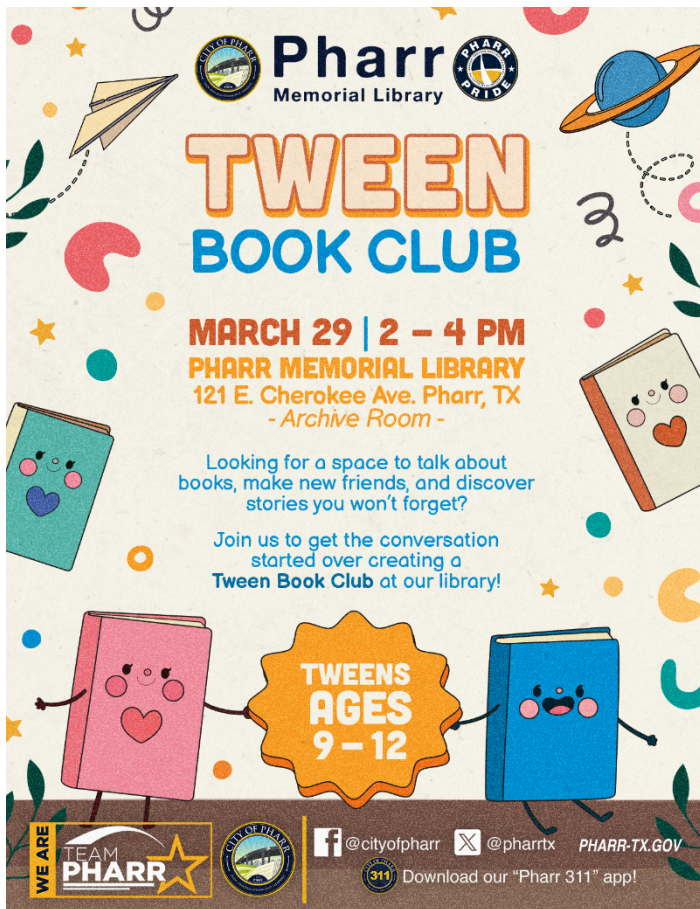
Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration

Pharr Memorial Library
 YOU ARE INVITED TO
Dr. Seuss
 Celebration
March 6TH
 DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER
 850 W. DICKER RD. PHARR, TX 78577
6:00pm - 8:00pm
 Registration Starts: 5:30pm
 Wear your **BEST** Dr. Seuss Costume!
 Story Time with a Special Guest Reader
 Snacks • Crafts • Games
 Book Giveaway • Raffle & More

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 @cityofpharr @pharrtx PHARR-TX.GOV
 Download our "Pharr 311" app!

COMING UP

- **Family Place Library Grant for South Branch/Development and Research Center, Dr. Seuss Celebration, & More**
 - January Art Workshop (DRC + PML) Jan 11th & Jan 25th
 - Family Place Library Grant (DRC) Jan – Oct 2025
 - Dr. Seuss Celebration – Mar 6th, 2025
 - Tween Book Club – Mar 29th, 2025
 - Presenting October's Writing Contest and Cover Contest Winners – Apr 2025
 - Easter Eggstravaganza – Apr 12th, 2025
 - Seed Library Project Unveiling – Apr 2025



Pharr Memorial Library

TWEEN BOOK CLUB

MARCH 29 | 2 – 4 PM
PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY
121 E. Cherokee Ave. Pharr, TX
- Archive Room -

Looking for a space to talk about books, make new friends, and discover stories you won't forget?

Join us to get the conversation started over creating a Tween Book Club at our library!

TWEENS AGES 9 – 12

WE ARE TEAM PHARR

Download our "Pharr 311" app!

PHARR.TX.GOV



PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY PRESENTS

EASTER Eggstravaganza

APRIL 12TH | **PHARR SPORTS COMPLEX PARK**
201 E Moore Rd. Pharr, TX 78577
10:00AM – 12:00PM
REGISTRATION STARTS: 9:00AM
EGG HUNT STARTS: 10:00AM

GAMES * PRIZES * SNACKS * FUN

OVER 15,500 EGGS

WE ARE TEAM PHARR

Download our "Pharr 311" app!

PHARR.TX.GOV

RELEVANT RESOURCES

Seed Libraries at Public Libraries Are Growing

[Seed Library Near Me | Almanac.com](#)

Find a Seed Library Near You

Libraries are not just for lending books. A rapidly growing trend is for libraries to offer seeds to their gardening patrons!

You may be surprised to learn that there are a multitude of things available at your local branch beyond books. Depending on the need in your community you can borrow tools, appliances, medical devices including walkers, crutches, and blood pressure cuffs, artwork, Halloween costumes, and even cake pans!

Why Start a Seed Library?

Why would anyone start a “seed library” in a public library?

- To build a culture of self-reliance and sharing.
- To strengthen regional food security.
- To support a local seed-saving network.
- Preserve seeds that have proven to be successful in your area.
- To provide ongoing encouragement and education for gardeners at all levels of expertise.
- To help people save money and safeguard against supply chain disruptions and seed shortages.
- To revive lost and endangered varieties.
- To preserve the genetic diversity of plants.
- How will they do this?
- By collecting and distributing open-pollinated seeds for community use.
- By promoting seed-saving skills.
- By offering gardening programs and educational materials.
- By providing gardeners with the opportunity to try new plants.

How Does a Seed Library Work?

It's not hard to start one (or even suggest one) at your local library. For years, my partner Tom and I hosted a seed swap at our library. We both manage a greenhouse business and start seeds for fellow gardeners.

With donated seeds from Baker Creek as the base, gardeners could bring in their extra, unwanted, or saved seeds to trade. It was always a fun community event. The library has decided to take it a step further and become a seed library. They have been able to solicit seeds from a wider range of companies to get this up and running. Seeds will be available until we run out, and hopefully, many of them will be returned at the end of the growing season.
