



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Summer Reading Program Kickoff at the New Braunfels Public Library

New Braunfels, TX - The New Braunfels Public Library will hold its Summer Reading Kickoff on Saturday, May 30th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This fun-filled event marks the beginning of an exciting two month hero-themed program for library patrons of all ages. The event will offer children, teens and adults their first opportunity to sign up for the program and enjoy a superhero mask project, activities, games, and a special concert by “The Que Pastas” at 11:00 a.m.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m., the Friends of the Library will hold their 5th annual Children’s Book Sale at the Friends building by the library’s north parking lot. Thousands of children’s books, board books and young adult books will be sold for 50 cents each. The New Braunfels Police Department will also be on hand for their “Kid Print” program during the book sale hours.

This year’s Summer Reading Program, “Every Hero Has a Story,” will offer a variety of hero-themed events, from the Superhero Training Camp to a bio-play on the decorated WWII combat soldier, Audie Murphy.

In addition, this year’s program will include enhanced programming for teens, additional educational programs and special performances for children, a Summer Hero Film Series for all ages at both the library and the Westside Community Center, a Summer Concert Series for all ages, and double the number of grand prizes for adults, along with weekly prize drawings.

Registrants will receive reading logs with instructions, as well as a complete list of all events throughout the summer. This information is also available on the library’s website at www.nbtexas.org/library.

Some of the highlights of the program include:

- *Austin Reptiles*: an educational program featuring live reptiles from around the world
- “*To Hell and Back: the Audie Murphy Story*,” a performance by Broadway and film veteran Duffy Hudson as Audie Murphy

- *Book-2-Movie Club*: A program for teens consisting of book discussions and a private screening of film adaptations at the Alamo Drafthouse
- *Mr. Johnny & Sharon*: an interactive concert for toddlers and preschoolers
- *Aimee Toomes, San Antonio Symphony Violinist in Concert*: This show, the first in an ongoing concert series, will feature performances of works by Bach, as well as an informative discussion on the training necessary to become a concert violinist, and a question and answer session
- *Chemistry Roadshow*: Fire, explosions and crazy chemical reactions, presented by Texas A&M University
- *Summer Hero Film Series*: Every Wednesday night at the Westside Community Center and every Thursday night at the library - a great film on the big screen
- *Whirled on a String*: A fascinating demonstration by professional yo-yo and spin top champion Valerie Oliver
- DIY programs for teens, including “Wreck Your T-Shirt,” and “Cosplay 101”
- *The Bill King Jazz Quartet*: A nationally acclaimed jazz group from San Antonio featuring saxophone, piano, drums and upright bass will perform jazz standards.

“Last year’s Summer Reading Program was our most successful ever, and we’re building on last year’s achievements with more programs and more incentives for reading and learning,” said Library Director Gretchen Pruett. “This year’s theme of heroism, from fantasy superheroes to the very real heroes that we encounter in our lives, will expose our patrons – children, teens and adults - to a variety of programs that can help expand their horizons and connect them to the library’s role in the process of learning and growing.”

The program special events are supported by *The Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library*.

For information about the Summer Reading Program for children contact Jenny Rodriguez at 830-221-4314, for teens contact Ariel Cummins at 830-221-4319, and for adults contact Ben Pensiero at 830-221-4325.

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