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**New Braunfels Public Library Celebrates Love My Library Month with Food for Fines and Scratch-off Cards**

**New Braunfels, Texas** —“Love My Library Month is the time of the year when we remind the community of all that the 21<sup>st</sup> century library has to offer. We’ve added so many great programs and services this year with the assistance of the Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library, Inc. February is a month for patrons to reconnect with us,” said Library Director Gretchen Pruett.

For Love My Library Month the New Braunfels Public Library will offer patrons scratch-off cards with opportunities to win various library promotional items. Items include hot/cold pads, plant-a-shape flower seed bookmarks, magnetic bookmarks, RIOmobile “swag bags,” and pen/stylus/screen cleaner combos.

Library patrons have many options in order to obtain a scratch-off card. They may check-in on Facebook, put a post or picture on social media featuring their library visit and can tag the library using #lovemyNBPL. Or library patrons may come into the library and check out three different types of materials at one of the library’s service desks in order to receive a card. Library staff members will be happy to help you checkout the online books, magazines, movies, music and other resources now available to anyone with a library card, as well.

If overdue charges are preventing anyone from using the library, Food for Fines is a program that reduces overdue fines by \$2 for every non-perishable food item received. Donated, non-perishable food items will be given to the San Antonio Area Food Bank for distribution. Nonperishable food items needed include canned goods, fruit juices, baby foods and formulas, powdered milk, cereals, pasta, rice, beans, tomato sauce, pasta sauce, peanut butter and jelly. Patrons may also donate pet food, which will be given to the Humane Society of New Braunfels, Inc. Patrons who do not owe fines but also wish to donate non-perishable food items may do so at the library during the month of February.

“Food for Fines allows library patrons to restore their membership by decreasing overdue fines through food donation, as well as help those less fortunate in our community,” Pruett noted. “It has been a successful program for us and we’re happy to be able to offer it again this year. It helps those in need in our community and our library patrons.”

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