



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

FALL 2025

FOLTC Officers:

President: Rose Mary Crook

Vice President: Mary Welken

Recording Secretary: Kathy Day

Corresponding

Secretary: Judith Lee

Treasurer: Rose Carter

Friends of the Libraries of Towns County
P.O. Box 159
Young Harris, GA 30582

Website: www.foltc.com
Email: foltc22@yahoo.com

**Facebook.com/
FriendsOfThe
LibrariesOfTowns
County**

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LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Welcome to fall! It's a great time for leaf viewing and curling up with a good book, possibly purchased at our fall book sale.

In just a couple of months, I will have completed my first year as FOLTC President. It has been a year of learning a lot and meeting new people. I still feel blessed to have been elected to serve.

On October 1st, we learned of the death of Dr. Jane Goodall, the famous primatologist, most famous for her work with chimpanzees. Through her work, she discovered that chimps can use tools and exhibit complex social behaviors like compassion and familial bonds. She also wrote many books on her work and the environment, wanting to make positive changes to the environment. Many of her books are available with our PINES Library System.

Some of her works available are:

Eat Meat Less: Good For Animals, the Earth & All

My Life With the Chimpanzees

In the Shadow of Man

The Book of Hope

Thank you again for continuing to support the Towns County libraries through your memberships and support of our bookstores. Please encourage others to join and support our libraries' services.

YOUR LIBRARY IS MORE THAN THE BUILDING

Learning and fun does not stop at the door of your libraries. Check out our Experience Passes with your library card... you are welcome!

EXPERIENCE PASSES

Use your **library card** to visit **amazing places** around **Georgia!**

georgialibraries.org/passes

Check out passes for free entry to museums, state parks, and more.

Have fun and save money while visiting great places around Georgia!

Ask your librarian about Experience Passes or visit georgialibraries.org/passes

Participating libraries and their Experience Passes include:

- Alliance Theatre
- The Breman
- Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites
- EMORY MUSEUM
- MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES
- TUBMAN MUSEUM
- MIMMS
- FAVORITES

These programs and the Georgia Public Library Service programs are partially supported with funds from the Library Services and Technology Act.

FOLTC WELCOMES TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

FOLTC has recently welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors. Christine Osborn has been appointed to serve as Membership Chair and Megan Hume has been appointed to serve as Member at Large, effective in September. It is great to have new members who are willing to serve on the Board of Directors and to help in the day-to-day functioning of the Friends of the Libraries of Towns County. Welcome, Christine and Megan! Visit our website at www.foltc.com to learn more about FOLTC and its mission and fundraising activities.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

View from Lake Como by Adriana Trigiani

Jess, recently divorced, travels to her ancestral home in Carrara, Italy, for a journey of self-discovery, dealing with family expectations, and finding a new sense of purpose in both her personal and professional life.

River is Waiting by Wally Lamb

A father is imprisoned after accidentally killing his son. The novel explores themes of addiction, guilt, forgiveness, and the prison system. While in prison, the father participates in a creative writing program inspired by Lamb's own experiences.

First Gentleman by Bill Clinton and James Patterson

A political thriller about the husband of the first female U.S. President, Cole Wright, who goes on trial for a murder that occurred years ago when he was an NFL player.

OCTOBER BOOKSTORE SALE EVENT

As of the publishing deadline for this newsletter, our October Bookstore Sale Event's average-per-day sales exceeded those of our last bookstore event in April. Mountain Regional Library bookstore's average-per-day sales were up around 7%, while at our bookstore at Towns County Public Library, they were up almost 50%. One reason for this increase could be because we can now take credit and debit cards in both of our bookstores. Whatever the reason, we certainly appreciate our customers and their support.

NEW BOOK DISPLAYS IN OUR LIBRARIES



Do you walk past these displays on your way to the many bookshelves? It's easy to do. But you might want to pause and peruse the displays of the many new books available for your reading pleasure.

You could be the first or one of the first to read these newly received books. Happy selecting!



BOOK BUNCH MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 19th, at 1:30 pm in the Towns County Library in Hiawassee. The book is *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell. This will be our last meeting until April 2026. After much discussion, our regular attendees decided to suspend meeting during the winter months when many of our seasonal residents are not here locally. We will still have a book list for the entire year but only meet for discussion April through October. Bookmarks with the 2026 reading list will be available soon at both TCPL and MRL. Be sure to get one and join the group.

Monthly email reminders will continue to be sent. As always, your suggestions for an upcoming reading list are welcome. Please share the title and author with Kim at dbrown8071@aol.com. Sharing does not obligate you to lead the discussion. Happy reading and stay warm this winter.

Want to read ahead?

January 21 – *Night Watch* by Jayne Anne Phillips (NO MEETING)

February 18 - *Memorial Day* by Geraldine Brooks (NO MEETING)

March 18 – *Miss Morgan’s Book Brigade* by Janet S. Charles (NO MEETING)

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN THE FOLTC BOOKSTORES – WHO KNEW?

Why should you do your Christmas shopping at FOLTC’s bookstores?

1. Convenience: FOLTC has a bookstore at each of Towns County’s libraries, and they’re each open during the library’s normal hours. And we now take debit/credit cards, as well as cash/check, at both locations.
2. Something for everyone: we have children’s, young adult, and adult books, both hardback and paperback. And we have jigsaw puzzles, audiobooks, and DVDs.
3. Budget-friendly: our prices for gently used merchandise are unbeatable.
4. Unique: skip the disposable gadgets and fads. A book is a gift of adventure and inspiration. And they don’t require batteries or need assembly!
5. And finally, books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles are easy to wrap.
6. Every dollar stays here... in your libraries to benefit kids and all patrons of the libraries.

MOUNTAIN REGIONAL LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Thanks to the Friends of the Libraries, our Mountain Regional Library was able to host an unforgettable after-hours event this October — the “K-Pop Power Party!” Their support made it possible for seventy-five excited attendees to come together for a night of fun, laughter, and music. Guests made friendship bracelets, played Korean-inspired games, and enjoyed a delicious spread featuring treats from Asiano’s and refreshing mixed sodas from Sunny Sips.

The energy was incredible, and both staff and patrons are already buzzing about plans for another after-hours event in the near future! A special shoutout goes to **Freda Nicholson from United Community Bank**, who joined in with her willing hands, bright smile, and wonderful humor. We'd also like to extend heartfelt thanks to **Asiano's** for gifting their amazing fried rice, which was a big hit with everyone. Pictured left: Cindy Youngblood and Freda Nicholson trying their first Sunny Sip. Pictured right: Attendees enjoy making friendship bracelets.



As we turn the page to the holiday season, our Christmas book display is up and ready, featuring plenty of cozy reads perfect for these chilly days. And remember—if you can't visit us during regular hours, you can still reserve books online and pick them up later from our convenient after-hours book locker.



Once again, a huge thank you to our FOLTC for making community events like this possible. Your support brings joy, connection, and creativity to our library all year long!



Wriggle and Read is a new program where toddlers can explore new books with crafts, songs, and movement.

MRLS Director Heath Lee gave our Kids' Club (Kind & Curious Kids) an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the Mountain Regional Library System (photo on right).





TOWNS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Towns County Public Library has already been very busy this fall! For those FOLTC members (and non-members) who are interested in book clubs, we have a new one started and led by our very own Meredith Legg-Grady, focusing solely on non-fiction titles! Every month a new book is selected and will be available at the library in quantities great enough to provide copies to anyone interested. Please come get a copy and join in the discussion on the last Tuesday of the month at 5pm!

We have also had a wonderful turnout for two larger scale events in the library. The first, in September, was our Fall Festival. The library was decorated in an apple theme, and children (parents as well!!) played games throughout the library, had snacks of popcorn and apples, and got to leave with their very own book! Snacks and books were provided through the generosity of the FOLTC! The second event was our annual Halloween Carnival in October! Again, through the generosity of the FOLTC, children were able to pick out a new book to take home, and FOLTC volunteers assisted with the bookmark and bat cut-out stations!



Looking forward to Halloween night and then into November and December, FOLTC will be instrumental in helping TCPL achieve our goals of reaching members of our community. FOLTC has committed to helping us secure the materials, snacks, and books for our next two major events, Beagle and Bird Thanksgiving (Peanuts themed event) and Frozen Christmas! We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!

BUSINESS PATRONS

Jennifer Marshall
Branch Manager

5734 Robinson Rd.
Young Harris, GA 30582

jmarshall@peachstatefcu.org

Phone 762.349.4203
Fax 762.349.4215

www.peachstatefcu.org

peach state
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD
Legal Organ of Towns County, Georgia

P.O. Box 365
Hiawassee, GA 30546

Office (706) 896-4454
Fax (706) 896-1745
Email: tcherald@windstream.net


SVEN'S
COUNSELING SERVICES LLC
FOR SURVIVORS AND ACHIEVERS

SVEN LEGG-GRADY
EdS NCC LPC

3688 GAINESVILLE HWY
BLAIRSVILLE GA 30512
SVEN@SVENCOUNSELING.COM
706 250 0415

FOLTC MEMBERSHIP FORM

- If paying by check, print and complete this form and include it with your payment (see Payment of Dues below).
- Save time by using our online form and pay using a **credit or debit card**. Visit the FOLTC website at www.foltc.com and click on the Membership page. <https://www.foltc.com/renewal.html>

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Preferred Phone Number _____
Email _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Gift/Other _____
Individual \$15 _____ Family \$30 _____
Donor \$50 _____ Patron \$100 _____
Business Patron \$100 _____

Membership dues entitle you to one year of membership and are due for renewal on the anniversary of your joining date. Membership dues and gifts are tax deductible as FOLTC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Business Patrons will receive a thank you letter and have a copy of their business card included for one year in the quarterly FOLTC newsletter which is distributed to all members.

PAYMENT OF DUES

If you wish to pay by **check**, make checks payable to FOLTC. Completed membership form and payment may be placed in the red money boxes in the FOLTC bookstores at Towns County Public Library in Hiawassee or Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris, or mailed to FOLTC, P. O. Box 159, Young Harris, GA 30582.

If you wish to pay by **credit or debit card**, visit our website at www.foltc.com and click on the Membership page.

FOLTC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of the Libraries of Towns County is to provide financial support for Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library and to advocate for public libraries. FOLTC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.