



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

Spring 2020

FOLTC Officers:

President: Elaine Roberts

Vice President: Mary Welken

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Day

Corresponding Secretary:

Judith Lee

Treasurer: Jim Reynolds

**Friends of the Libraries of
Town County**

P.O. Box 159

Young Harris, GA 30582

www.mountainregionallibrary.org/foltc

Email: foltc7@gmail.com

[Facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLibrariesOfTownCounty](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLibrariesOfTownCounty)

Be sure to “Like Us” on Facebook because it helps to spread the word.

Greetings from the FOLTC President:

Like so many organizations that had to make decisions to change schedules, so has the FOLTC board. Our April board meeting and the May book sale have been cancelled. We anticipate holding our June board meeting and a Book/Bake Sale in late August. Hopefully, our world will be back to “normal” so that we can hold the sale in August.

During this unsettling time I want to share a poem that has gone viral on social media. This uplifting poem was written by Laura Kelly Fanucci, who writes a syndicated column for a newspaper

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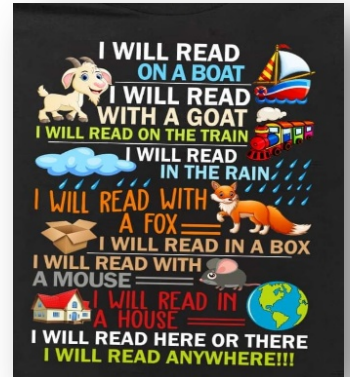
“When this is over, may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theater
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself
When this ends may we find that we have become more like
the people
We wanted to be
We were called to be
We hoped to be
And may we stay that way –
Better for each other because of the worst.”

Sincerely, Elaine Roberts, President of
FOLTC Board

Doris Tilly Receives FOGL “Best Friend” Award:

Every spring the Friends of Georgia Libraries (FOGL) accepts nominations for its “Best Friend” award. FOGL’s mission is “to create an informed statewide voice for Georgia’s libraries...and to strengthen the ability of local Friends’ organizations to support their libraries.” In February the FOLTC’s Board of Directors nominated Doris Tilly to be Georgia’s “Best Friend.” She was recently selected as this year’s winner of the award and will be honored at an awards ceremony during FOGL’s annual meeting and workshop on October 2nd in Athens.

Doris is the founding member of FOLTC and was elected to serve as its first president. She has been an active member since 1996 and has served in a variety of capacities. She applied for and received various grants: to plant a butterfly garden, purchase gardening books, and purchase young adult books. When Mountain Regional Library was renovated in 2016, Doris generously donated significant funds in memory of her husband Wally and daughter Karen to help complete and furnish the Children’s Room.



Saying Hello and Farewell:

FOLTC board members and friends would like to welcome the new Mountain Regional Library System Director Heath Lee. He has worked in many areas of public library services and was branch manager of the Gilmer County Library. There are plans to include an in-depth article about Director Lee in the Summer 2020 newsletter.

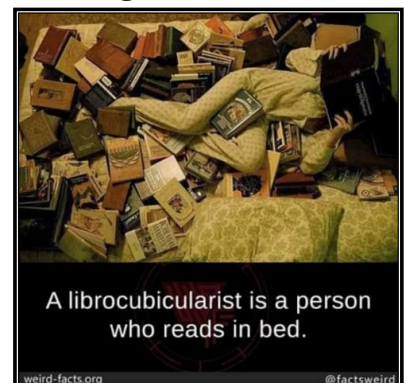
In a recent phone conversation with Suzanne Carter, Mr. Lee stated that there is no projected date for reopening the libraries. However, he and the staff are working on a “reopening limited service model plan” that would allow for some curb-side and phone services, such as hold requests, readers advisory services, and returning of books. Frequently check the MRLS and FOLTC Facebook pages for up-to-date information and announcements.

We would also like to say thank you and farewell to Claudia Gibson who served as the interim director of MRLS from August 2019 until March 2020. We are grateful that she was willing to disrupt her retirement to take care of our library system while the search for a new director was underway. A reception for Heath Lee and Claudia Gibson will be held once government guidelines allow for larger gatherings and we can be sure it is safe. This gives us something to look forward to celebrating together.

AmazonSmile donations to FOLTC:



We weathered the winter storm. Now we are weathering a different storm. It’s the perfect time to curl up with a good book. What!? You have no unread books? Well, look online. Amazon has new and



used books for purchase. When shopping through Amazon, remember FOLTC. When members utilize AmazonSmile, FOLTC receives a small contribution from Amazon. Already an AmazonSmile user? Sign into your account. First-time user of AmazonSmile? Log in using your regular Amazon User Name and Password. Directly under the Search window, you will see ‘Supporting’. Click the down arrow. Select THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY. This is a fast, easy, and no-additional-cost-to-you way to generate money for FOLTC. Remember: purchase prices are not affected by using AmazonSmile.

We Love Our Libraries and Library Employees:

National Library Week is an annual event celebrated since 1958 and “highlights the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening communities” (American Library Association). National Library Workers Day was April 21st. FOLTC recognizes the contributions of each and every staff member at Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library by gifting each of them a \$20 Ingles gift card. It is a small token of our appreciation for jobs well done.



Left to Right: Debbie Phillips - TCPL Branch Manager, Elaine Roberts – FOLTC President, and Marlene Cannon - MRL Branch Manager

It’s Always the Right Time:

Did you know...becoming a member of FOLTC can happen any day of the year? New memberships or renewals are always available. Membership form in this newsletter for you.

Book/Bake Sale:

Our next book & bake sale is (tentatively) scheduled for Thursday, August 27th--members only, then Friday and Saturday, August 28th & 29th, open to the public.

FOLTC will need your help with book donations once our libraries reopen. Please remember that we do not accept moldy books, encyclopedias, Bibles or other books on religion, or any “books for dummies.” Books we accept are fiction, non-fiction, travel, gardening, crafting, cookbooks, art, history, military, politics, science and nature, children and young adult books.

We look forward to seeing all our friends.

Patron Level Business Donor (\$100+ level):



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 Office: 706-379-3121
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Website: <http://www.brmemc.com>

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FOLTC Mission Statement:

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

FOLTC MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Date _____
Name _____
Street _____
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State _____ Zip Code _____
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MEMBERSHIP: New _____ Renewal _____ Gift/Other _____

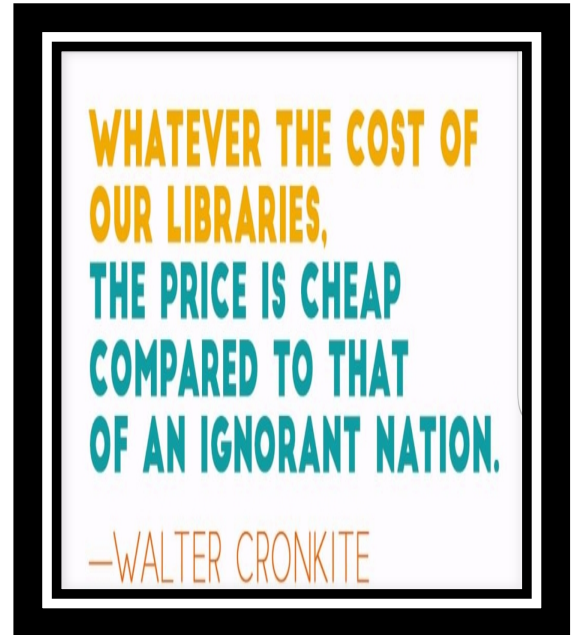
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PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES is valid for one year of membership; renewal is the anniversary of your joining date. Membership dues and gifts are tax deductible as FOLTC is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization. Business Members will receive a thank you letter. Business Donors will receive a letter and a framed certificate of appreciation. Business Patrons will receive a letter, a certificate, and a copy of their business card included for one year in the FOLTC newsletter, which is published quarterly and distributed by email or mail to all members.

Make checks payable to FOLTC. Membership forms and payment may be handed in at Towns County Public Library in Hiawassee or Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris, or mailed to FOLTC, P O Box 159, and Young Harris GA 30582.



Thank you for supporting the Libraries through your membership.

Share this newsletter and encourage others to become a member.