



# FOLTC

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

**SUMMER 2025**

**FOLTC Officers:**

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**VP: Mary Welken**

**Recording Secretary:**

**Kathy Day**

**Corresponding**

**Secretary: Judith Lee**

**Treasurer: Jim**

**Reynolds**

**Friends of the Libraries  
of Towns County**

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**Facebook.com/FriendsOf  
The LibrariesOf  
TownsCounty**

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**LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

I would like to thank all of you for your help and support throughout the year and especially with our programs for children. Both libraries have and are still having great learning opportunities for the children in our communities, including learning about snakes and birds. Every opportunity helps instill a love for the library in our kids. Children who love to read and learn will continue learning through their lifetime.

According to a study from Northwest Evaluation Association, 20% of school year gains in reading grades 3-5 are lost over the summer. The value of reading books includes:

Mental Stimulation  
Memory Improvement  
Vocabulary Expansion  
Stronger Analytical Thinking  
Improved Focus and Concentration

Thank you again for continuing to support the Towns County libraries through your membership and donations. The children reap the rewards of our generosity. Please encourage others to join and support our libraries' services for children and adults.

Thank you for your continued support—we're always working to better serve you!

**FOLTC NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS**

FOLTC now accepts credit/debit cards in addition to checks and cash for book purchases and donations in both of our bookstores. Beginning in September we will accept credit/debit cards for membership and donations online via our website at [www.foltc.com](http://www.foltc.com).

### **NOW AVAILABLE AT BOTH FOLTC BOOKSTORES!**

**To buy books in either of our bookstores:** To buy books or make a donation in either of our bookstores, look for the QR code on the front of the red money box. Scan it with your phone to link to a credit card processing page. Purchases may be made with VISA, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover credit/debit cards.

### **COMING TO OUR WEBSITE IN SEPTEMBER!**

**To renew your FOLTC membership online:** As a current FOLTC member, you'll receive an email when your membership expires. It will contain a link to a credit card processing page. Or you will be able to renew any time by going to our website at [www.foltc.com](http://www.foltc.com).

**To join FOLTC as a new member online:** To join FOLTC as a new member, you will be able to join by going to our website at [www.foltc.com](http://www.foltc.com).

**To make an online monetary donation or memorial donation to FOLTC:** You will be able to make an online monetary or memorial donation by going to our website at [www.foltc.com](http://www.foltc.com).

Of course, we still accept cash and checks for any of these actions in our bookstores' red money boxes. And checks for membership and donations can still be mailed to us at FOLTC, PO Box 159, Young Harris, GA 30582.

Whether you use cash, check, or credit/debit card, we appreciate your support!



Please join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 10:30 for the Creative Crafts Social Group at Mountain Regional Library. ALL crafts and crafters are welcome to attend for some social time and the sharing of crafts. The next gathering will be on August 25<sup>th</sup>.



### **BOOK BUNCH BOOK CLUB AT TCPL**

August 20<sup>th</sup>: *Garlic and Sapphire* by Ruth Reichl

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>: *The Last Castle* by Denise Kiernan

Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>: *The Ballad of Frankie Silver* by Sharyn McCrumb

## EXCITING SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT YOUR LIBRARY!

This summer has been an incredible season of growth, learning, and community engagement at our libraries. With a highly successful Summer Reading Program (SRP) and the launch of exciting new services, we're proud to share what we've been up to—and what's coming next!



### ☀️ SUMMER READING PROGRAM SUCCESS

Our two libraries jointly hosted this year's SRP with events that brought joy, wonder, and

inspiration to hundreds of children and families across the communities. Over the course of five June events, we welcomed 665 patrons, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Here's a snapshot of some of the amazing events we've hosted:



- 🎩 **Jeffini the Magician** and **The Crescent Circus** at *Towns County Recreation Center* – A delightful combination of magic, juggling, and acrobatics that thrilled audiences of all ages.
- 🐾 **ZooPro Adventures** at *Young Harris Mayor's Park* – A hands-on animal experience that was as educational as it was exciting.
- 🌿 **Smithgall Woods: Animals Adapt & Snakes Alive!** - A fascinating look at local native wildlife complete with interactions.
- 🌌 **Planetarium Visits** at *Young Harris College* – Featuring *Magic Tree House: Space Mission*, these back-to-back shows blended storytelling with space science and included a walkthrough of the current night sky. Children couldn't wait for nightfall to spot the constellations themselves!



A BIG thank you to FOLTC for providing allergy-free and dye-free popsicles for all of our outdoor events this summer! Parents and children greatly appreciated the consideration for all children to be included in a special cool treat. We were also able to give away free books to prize winners who attended our library summer events.



### **COMING SOON: BOOK LOCKERS AT YOUR LIBRARY!**

We're thrilled to announce a brand new convenience for our patrons—**Book Lockers!** If you can't make it during regular business hours, no worries. Just place a hold on the item you want, and we'll place it in a secure locker so you can pick it up at your convenience. This new service is designed to make borrowing materials easier and more accessible for everyone.

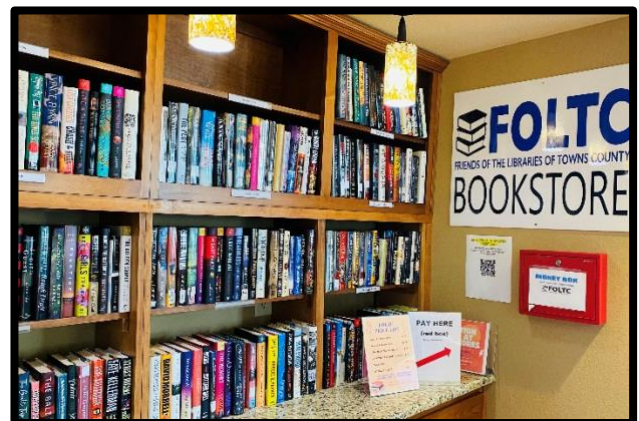
Thank you for your continued support of your local libraries. Whether you're attending programs, borrowing materials, or just stopping in to say hello, we're grateful to serve such vibrant and engaged communities. Here's to the rest of a great summer—and many more stories to come!

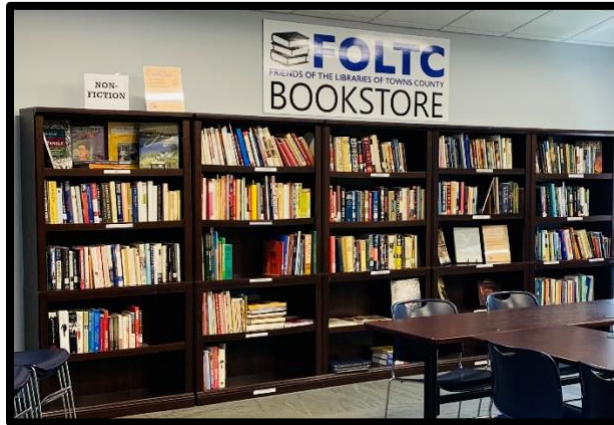
### **MRL UPDATES:**

- We've recently completed maintenance on our windows and doors to improve your experience.
- Watch for our new hours sign, coming soon!

### **FOLTC BOOKSTORE NEWS**

FOLTC relies on the generous donations of pre-owned books from our communities to stock our bookstores. All generated funds are used to support both of the libraries in Towns County to supplement their revenue for books, materials, and programming for children and adults.



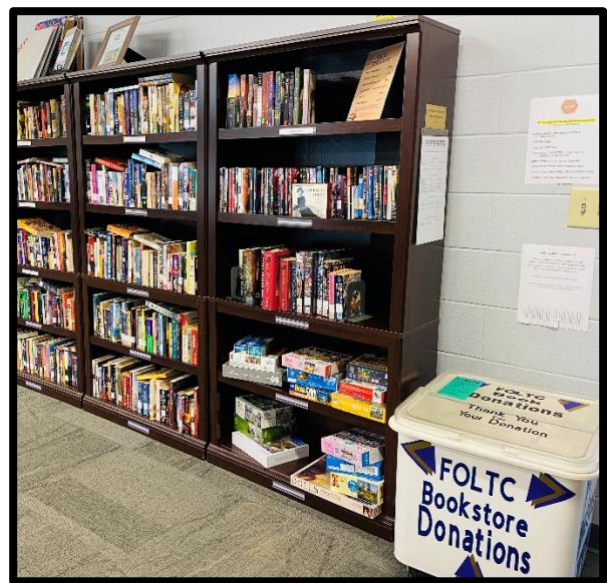


There are donation bins at each library for small donations. Large donations are accepted at Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris on the first Monday of each month as that is where FOLTC has storage. The bookstore shelves are restocked often from the donations. Once or twice a year, FOLTC bookstores have an inventory reduction sale because of your generous donations.

The following preowned books are accepted: children; young adult; fiction (both hardback and paperback); military; history; biographies; current health books; cookbooks; gardening; nature/animals. DVDs, CD audiobooks, and jigsaw puzzles.

There are some preowned books that we aren't able to accept. These include: books that are ripped, mildewy or moldy; Reader's Digest Condensed Books; encyclopedias; textbooks; VHS tapes; audiocassette tapes; music CDs; magazines; medical/computer/legal books published over 5 years ago.

Thank you for all of your bookstore donations which help to make FOLTC's bookstores a reliable source of income from the Friends to the libraries!



## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

### ***The Couple in the Photo*** by Helen Coupler

Lucy and her husband Adam have been best friends with Cora and Scott. When Lucy sees Scott with another woman in a co-workers honeymoon pictures, everything begins to change. The woman with Scott has disappeared.

### ***Lie for a Million*** by Janet Dailey

Everything in Texas is bigger for one prestigious family. That means drama, passions, and scandal following the murder of the wealthy patriarch.

### ***Secret from the Past*** by Jenny Elaine

A mysterious young woman moves to Shady Pines to renovate a beautiful old B&B, but is that the only reason she was there? Soon she is distracted after finding a dead body.

## 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.

## FOLTC MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Street\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone#\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE

New Member\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal\_\_\_\_\_ Gift/Other\_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$12\_\_\_\_\_ Family \$24\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor \$30\_\_\_\_\_ Donor \$50\_\_\_\_\_ Patron \$100\_\_\_\_\_

Gift \$\_\_\_\_\_

Business Member \$35\_\_\_\_\_ Business Donor \$50\_\_\_\_\_ Business Patron \$100\_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES** is 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 payments may be placed in the red money boxes in the Friends' bookstores in 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.

**When you invite your friends to become a FOLTC member,  
our children are the big winners.**