



# FRIENDS FORECAST

FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES OF TEXAS

FALL 2011

## KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS!



The archives team at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building includes Laura K. Saegert, Tony Black, Rebecca Romanchuk, Tonia J. Wood, John Anderson and Jessica Tucker. Not pictured: Donaly Brice, Sergio Velasco, Stephanie Shunick and Jelain Chubb.

Some have referred to the Texas State Archives as “just a bunch of old newspapers.” Others, who have explored the depth and breadth of the collections, stand in awe of the collections entrusted to the archives, which help them make Texas history come alive. We’ve been recently reminded of this by authors and historians who have spoken as part of TSLAC’s Speaker Series. They have lauded the archival staff who assisted their research.

We want to take an opportunity to acknowledge them publicly. Below is a sampling

of accolades, both published and privately communicated in letters of thanks.

“A number of individuals and institutions provided key assistance in preparing this book..., including Tonia Wood and Jessica Tucker of the Texas State Library and Archives ...” — First Lady Laura Bush, in her 2010 memoir, *Spoken from the Heart*.

“My research depended crucially on the assistance of archivists and library professionals. In particular I wish to thank Laura Saegert at the Texas State Library and Archives, whose encyclopedic knowledge of

See KUDOS page 3

## Friends Selected for ACF Endowment Initiative

THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION HAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY to establish an endowment dedicated specifically for preservation and conservation of historical documents. The Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas is one of 10 nonprofit organizations selected to participate in the Austin Community Foundation Non-Profit Endowment Match

Initiative. The Austin Community Foundation (ACF) will match \$1 to every \$4 donated and provide support in our fundraising effort.

Our goal is to establish a \$100,000 endowment dedicated to saving Texas history. Contributions can be made to the Texas Historical Preservation Endowment at the Austin Community Foundation online via credit card at [www.austincommunityfoundation.org](http://www.austincommunityfoundation.org); or by check (specifying the endowment) payable to the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas, P.O. Box 12983, Austin, TX 78711.

## Join the Club! Friends Seek Texas Reading Club Partners



The Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas seeks corporate and foundation partners to underwrite the Texas Reading Club. The 54-year-old initiative of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission provides more than 600 public and school libraries across Texas with materials to implement a summer reading program for children and teens. Disappointingly, after five decades, the program fell under the state’s budget axe this past session. Research demonstrates that students need help retaining literacy skills gained during the school year and without a continued focus on reading, those skills drop precipitously during the summer months.

This is a wonderful opportunity to promote literacy in a very visible way. Please contact Charlotte McCann 512-936-2505; ([cmccann@tsl.state.tx.us](mailto:cmccann@tsl.state.tx.us)) to learn more or to participate.



Austin  
Community  
Foundation

## FROM THE DIRECTOR AND LIBRARIAN



**Peggy D. Rudd**

I don't know about you, but I am glad to see the end of summer 2011! The heat and drought reached record levels, and layoffs and reorganization of the agency only made matters

worse. The 82nd Legislature reduced the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's budget 64 percent. Programs to support public libraries experienced the greatest loss, with some unfunded altogether. Despite these setbacks, we are fully focused on the future. I want to share with you two TSLAC initiatives we hope will mitigate cuts and support advocacy efforts on behalf of Texas libraries.

We have engaged the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas at Austin to conduct a Return on Investment (ROI) study of public libraries. We know intuitively that libraries are community assets that benefit the public in important ways. By assigning a dollar value to those benefits, we can talk concretely with government officials and funders about the difference they make. The ROI study will be completed by the end of summer 2012 and available leading up to

the 2013 legislative session.

In addition, we have surveyed public library directors to determine the impact of the loss of Loan Star Libraries Program funding. With responses from 343 libraries already in, preliminary information is striking, describing the loss of staff, reduction in hours open, diminished programming, etc. Soon to be completed, the findings of this survey will serve as a powerful tool to support advocacy.

Despite so much grim news, a national library program is garnering great interest and support. The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), an initiative of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University, would make the entire cultural and scientific public domain content available to all at any time. As a DPLA Steering Committee member I attended the recent DPLA conference in Washington, DC. At that meeting, the Sloan Foundation pledged \$2.5 million and the Arcadia Fund pledged an additional \$2.5 million to support substantial progress over the next two years. This bodes well for this grand vision of equitable access for all.

Peggy D. Rudd  
Director and Librarian  
Texas State Library and Archives Commission

## FROM OUR NEW FRIENDS PRESIDENT

What an exciting time to join the leadership of the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas. The Friends' participation in the Austin Community Foundation's Non-Profit Endowment Initiative, and its efforts to find underwriting for the Texas Reading Club reflect growth in the Friends' role and significance in supporting the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's programs and activities. With that responsibility comes the need to increase Friends' membership, and to reach out to the larger community of Texas library, genealogy, and archives advocates and activists.

Your support benefits not only Friends

activities on behalf of the TSLAC, but also public libraries, genealogical research, and the preservation and conservation of Texas history for current and future generations. If you are not a Friends member, please consider joining us. If you have been a member, please renew your membership.

As Friends, we can make a difference for one of our state's most treasured institutions.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Hughes



FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES  
& ARCHIVES OF TEXAS

PO Box 12983  
Austin, TX 78711

[www.texaslibraryfriends.org](http://www.texaslibraryfriends.org)

### About the Friends

*The Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas is a non-profit organization that supports the work of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the efforts of local library friends groups around the state.*

*The Texas State Library and Archives Commission is the state agency that improves Texas library services and preserves and makes accessible the official history and records of Texas government.*

### Friends Board of Directors

*Cyndi Hughes, President  
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Susan Smith Dorsey, Secretary  
Gretchen McCord, Treasurer  
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### Forecast Media

*Suzanne Holman  
Tracy Lash  
Charlotte McCann  
Stacey Million*

## KUDOS (continued from page 1)

the history of crime and punishment in Texas was indispensable.” — William S. Bush, *Who Gets A Childhood? Race and Juvenile Justice in Twentieth-Century Texas*.

“I would like to acknowledge Laura Saeger and Sergio Velasco, who provided easy and efficient access to long-ignored records of the [Waco State] home.” — Sherry Matthews, *We Were Not Orphans: Stories from the Waco State Home*.

“Jean Carefoot and John Anderson of the Texas State Archives have unfailingly expedited my research on Henry McArdle, often tracking down the most arcane of questions.” — Sam D. Ratcliffe, author

of *Painting Texas History To 1900*.

“To Donaly Brice, Archivist Extraordinaire.” — Authors Charles H. Harris III, Frances E. Harris, and Louis R. Sadler in *Texas Rangers Biographies: Those Who Served, 1910-1921*.

If information leads to knowledge and knowledge is power, then the Texas State Archives, in the care of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, is a massive well of intellectual thought and historical perspective. We welcome and encourage its use. But the true stars are the knowledgeable and helpful staff who make the Texas State Archives come to life!

## 2011 Contributions

### Alamo Defender \$10,000+

Tocker Foundation

### Texas Trail Driver \$1,000+

Daughters of the American Colonists, Texas State Society

Kenneth & Dianna Dorman

Friends of the Talking Book Volunteer Recording Studio

Peggy D. Rudd

### Texas Ranger \$500+

Dallas Genealogical Society

Wm. Scott McAfee

Connie Perdue

### Texas Pioneer \$100+

Carol Bartz

Mr. & Mrs. George Clarke

Susan Dorsey

Tracy Kuhn Lash

Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Simmons

Texas Heritage Society Inc.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE  
FRIENDS OF TALKING BOOK PROGRAM  
VOLUNTEER RECORDING STUDIO  
FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION!**

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

The Friends welcomes Cyndi Hughes as our new president, and Gretchen McCord as our new treasurer. We thank our previous president, Darryl Tocker, and

treasurer, Michael “Mickey” Schott for their yeoman efforts on behalf of the Friends, and their continued commitment and service on the board.

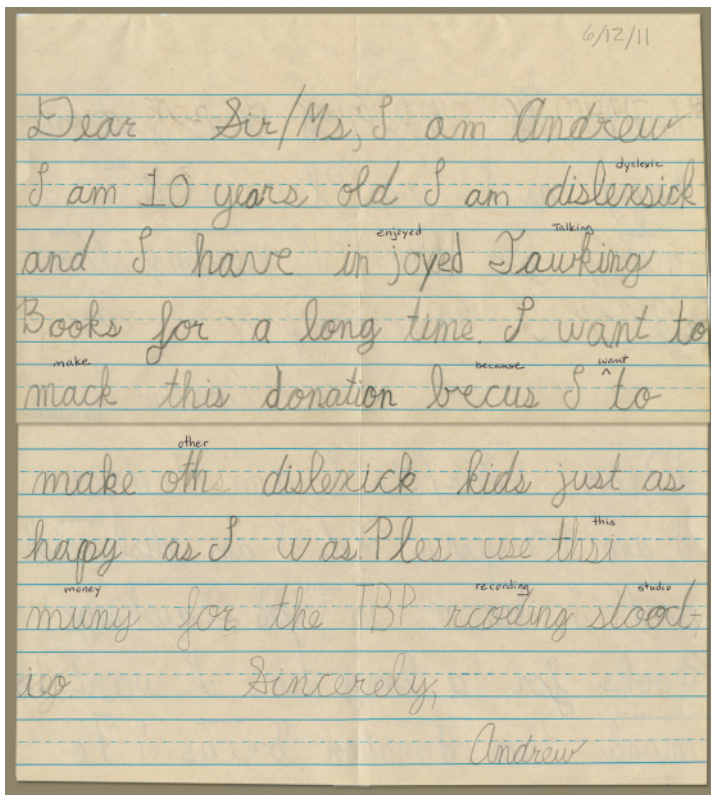
## Become an Effective Advocate

Plan to be at the Houston Convention Center on Wednesday, April 18, 2012, for the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas’ annual program and membership meeting.

Budget cuts at the state level have a direct and profound impact on local communities’ library services. Patrick Heath, founding president of the Friends and former mayor of Boerne; Su-

san S. Mann of the Hillsboro City Library; and State Representative Jose Menendez will explain the legislative budget process, how to communicate effectively with legislators, and how to mitigate funding cuts.

Learn how you can effectively share information about the vital role of libraries in developing workforce skills and strengthening communities.

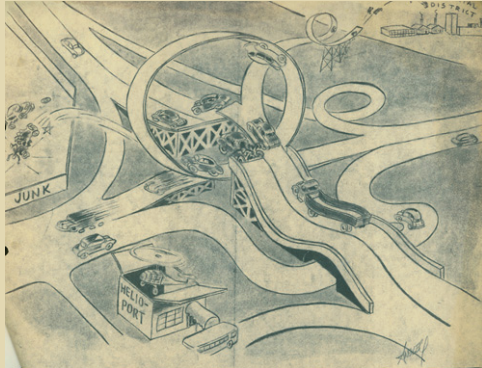


Note from a young patron to the Friends for TSLAC's Talking Book Program.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ARCHIVES: Online Exhibits Make Texas History Come Alive

Historians have called the construction of the Texas highway system one of the greatest building projects in world history.

Now history lovers, engineering buffs, and travelers alike can discover a lost era with TSLAC's extensive new online exhibit, "The Texas Highway Department Transforms Texas — 1917–1968." Dozens of vintage photographs and documents from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's collection



*This 1953 cartoon of proposed future Dallas highways was presented by the Dallas Chamber of Commerce to the Texas State Highway Commission.*

*Texas Highway Department Records, Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives.*

of Texas Highway Department project files tell the story of Texas' journey from frontier backwater to transportation power player. View this and other online exhibits, from the Republic Era to the Civil War to the Civilian Conservation Corps, at [www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/index.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/index.html).

## Celebrate Sam Houston & Support the Friends!

The Atascosito Historical Society and the Friends are offering a limited-edition bronze bust of Sam Houston by sculptor Lawrence Ludtke for \$365. Endorsed by the Sam Houston Bicentennial Celebration Commission of Texas, the 6.5-inch bust is mounted on polished Texas red granite. Proceeds will benefit the Friends and the historical society, a supporter of TSLAC's Sam Houston Regional Library & Research Center in Liberty. To order, visit [www.texaslibraryfriends.org](http://www.texaslibraryfriends.org)

or call Charlotte McCann at 512-936-2505.



*Bust sells for \$365 with proceeds benefiting the Friends and the Atascosito Historical society.*

## TSLAC 2012 Events

- January 20** – Genealogy After Dark, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
- February 9** – Talking Book Program: Meet the Narrator, Studio Tour & Reception, 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.
- March** – Charles Porter speaks on Texas water, 5:30 p.m.
- April 13** – Genealogy After Dark, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
- April 18, 2012** – Friends Annual Membership Meeting: "Be an Effective Advocate: Working with Your State Legislators" @ TLA Annual Conference in Houston

*Details on all events at [www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us)*

### Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



#### Membership Options

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Student       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Senior (65+)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Affiliate Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Family   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business Friend        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ your generous donation is greatly appreciated |   |

*The Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports the Texas State Library and Archives Commission*

Please return membership form with your check payable to:  
 (www.texaslibraryfriends.org)

**Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas**  
 P.O. Box 12983 Austin, Texas 78711