

City of Dallas News Release

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March 14, 2008

Dallas Public Library to roll out second Bookmobile;

The new branch on wheels will allow the library to continue its community outreach

Dallas – The Dallas Public Library will unveil its second bookmobile at 12 noon, Thursday, March 27 at the Central Library Plaza, 1515 Young St.

“It’s remarkable what a bookmobile means to a community,” said Director of Libraries Laurie Evans. “In many instances, the bookmobile is someone’s fondest first memories of the library. The bookmobile has been part of our library service intermittently since 1949,” she said. “In the early years, a bookmobile stop was sometimes the precursor to establishment of a new branch library. The bookmobile provides an approachable connection to the library, and has really helped us create many new users of library services and resources,” Evans said.

The library’s new bookmobile was made possible by the generous support of many donors throughout the community, Evans said. “Their understanding of what a bookmobile means specifically to children of our community is one of the reasons they’ve given so generously.” The Bookmobile public entity sponsor is Atmos Energy. Private financial support was provided by Hoblitzelle Foundation; Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation; Glenn & Dee Simmons Foundation; Harold Simmons Foundation; Ray & Nancy Hunt; the Meadows Foundation; and the Friends of the Dallas Public Library.

The Bookmobile will provide:

- Wireless internet access
- Library cards and renewals
- Connections to the Dallas Public Library catalog, databases and online homework help
- Adult and children's books and audio books
- Community programming
- DVD and VHS movies for children and adults
- Spanish language and English as a Second Language materials
- The ability to request materials not carried on the Bookmobile, but which can be brought on a future stop
- Story time for children during regular stops
- For a schedule and list of bookmobile stops, visit www.dallaslibrary.org.

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At the March 27 event, Atmos Energy will host a luncheon using its "Big Tex" grill to cook barbeque for all invited participants.

The Bookmobile is also available on a limited basis to take requests for stops at community events and special programs. Past events have included Dallas Roars at the Dallas Zoo; Earth Day at Cottonwood Park; The Mayor's back to School Fair; and Fair Park in Lights. To schedule the bookmobile for a community program or event, call (214) 670-1708 or e-mail libraryonwheels@dallaslibrary.org.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library and 25 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many free programs and services available at the Dallas Public Library, go to:
<http://dallaslibrary.org/home.htm>.

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