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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bargains! Bargains!

Friends of the Temple Public Library Host Annual Mid-Winter Book Sale Starting February 23

In 1985, a dozen eggs was 85 cents, a loaf of bread was 68 cents and the average cost of a new home was about \$84,000. If you're feeling nostalgic for 1985 prices, come to the Friends of the Temple Public Library Annual Mid-Winter Used Book Sale, starting Monday, February 23. Most books are priced \$2 or less, the same price they were at the Friends first book sale in 1985.

"We haven't raised the prices in 40 years, although we have added a couple of higher priced categories such as vintage and bestsellers," notes Diann Anderson, past president and volunteer coordinator. "Our twice-a-year sales offer the biggest bargains in Central Texas. We're successful because we sell great books for low prices and we have wonderful volunteers who sort donated books year round and work the week-long sales."

The Mid-Winter sale starts with a preview for Friends members at 10 a.m. on Monday, February 23.

"It's easier than ever to enjoy the perks of membership," says Friends Membership Chair Lana Shields. Renewing and newly joining members can join online, she adds, by visiting the Friends website <https://friendsofthetemplepubliclibrary.org>. Memberships start at \$10 for individuals and also can be purchased at the preview sale or in advance of the sale at the library circulation desk. The Friends group has approximately 200 members.

"We welcome our members to participate in the life of the Friends – book sorting on Mondays and Tuesdays, working our book sales and volunteering to serve on the board," says Friends President Al Waite. Individuals may volunteer by visiting the Friends website or emailing friendsoftemplelibrary@gmail.com.

The sale opens to the public on Wednesday, February 25, and continues through Saturday, February 28, when all remaining items can be purchased for \$5 a bag (provided by the Friends). Teachers receive a 20 percent discount every day of the sale, except Saturday. New items are added to the sale tables each day.

Books are sorted into categories – fiction, mystery, biography, history, romance, children's books, etc. – and displayed on tables filling the McLane Room on the library's third floor. Vintage books, record albums, DVDs, CDs, classic fiction, religious books, textbooks, non-fiction and cookbooks also are included in the sale.

Book sale hours are: members' preview, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., February 23; open to the public, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., February 25-27; and \$5 bag sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., February 28.

The Friends of the Temple Library held its first meeting in 1965 and its first used book sale in 1985 at the Temple Mall over the Labor Day weekend. That annual sale, now expanded to twice a year, is the Friends' primary fundraiser.

The Friends celebrated its 60th anniversary last year with a City of Temple proclamation recognizing the group's steadfast support of literacy, lifelong learning, and community connection through library services. Over the last 40 years, the Friends used book sales have made it possible for the Friends to donate funds for library renovations, children's summer reading programs, the library's first bookmobile and \$83,000 for its recent replacement. Each year, the Friends provide up to \$35,000 to fund the library director's wish list.

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