Little Libraries in Your Community

By Jolynn Young Neighborhood News Staff Writer

After the busy excitement of the holidays, January always seems to arrive with a quiet calmness. After almost a year following protocols from Covid living, January might be a good time to begin to get involved with the community. If you're a reading enthusiast and you find pleasure reading a tangible book, **Little Free Libraries** have a lot to offer.

Little Free Libraries is a registered 501c(3) nonprofit. The purpose of the neighborhood libraries is to foster a love of reading in local neighborhoods worldwide. I have found about nine Little Free Libraries in the Cat Hollow, Brushy Creek, 78681 area code. Generally, the neighborhoods that have a free library have joined together to be stewards of the Little Free Libraries in their neighborhoods. This creates a healthy neighborhood camaraderie coming together to provide books for everyone to enjoy. As stewards, neighbors take turns replenishing the libraries and provide maintenance of the library boxes.

The first Little Free Library was built in 2009 in Wisconsin. The libraries are now worldwide; all 50 states and 108 countries. Today there are over 100,000 registered neighborhood Little Free Libraries and more than 165 million books have been shared.

If you have books you have read and would like to share, scout your local neighborhoods for the Little Free Library boxes. When you bring a book to donate feel free to browse the library and take a book for yourself. Most Little Free Libraries are located on private property, but with approval from the city you may be able to place one on city property.

If you're interested in building a little library and want more information, check out the website: <u>LittleFreeLibrary.org</u>. Contact your neighbors and your HOA to start your own!

Little Free Libraries are exactly what the name implies: The library boxes are small, and the books are yours for the taking.

