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NEWS RELEASE

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Library book sale can be critical step to better grades

PROSPER (October 20, 2016) With apologies to humorist Mark Twain, research shows that, “the reports of the death of traditional books are greatly exaggerated.”

“People are still reading books, and the vast majority are reading traditional books,” says Leslie Scott, Library Director. “Last year, the Pew Research Center determined that 73 percent of Americans had read at least one book in the preceding 12 months.”

That statistic has held true, according to the Center, since 2012. In addition, the ratio of book readers who picked up a traditional book was 65 percent. E-books were read by 28 percent of readers, and audio books came in at 14 percent.

For those looking to expand their home libraries, the Prosper Friends of the Library are holding their annual book sale next month.

The sale is set for Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Prosper Community Library, 700 N. Coleman, on the campus of Reynolds Middle School. The sale opens at 9 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m.

Among the categories on sale are fiction and non-fiction titles for adults, young adults, teens and children. Also available for purchase is a wide variety of DVDs.

Hardback books and other media will be on sale at special prices, many for \$1 or less.

Providing reading material at home for students has been found to be a critical component of better reading scores at school. The U.S. Department of Education found that, generally, the more students read for fun on their own time, the higher their reading scores.

A poll of middle and high school students commissioned by the National Education Association found that 56 percent of young people say they read more than 10 books a year, with middle school students reading the most. Some 70 percent of middle school students read more than 10 books a year, compared with only 49 percent of high school students.

Having a ready supply of books at home increases the likelihood of developing a recreational reading habit. Cash and checks will be accepted at the book sale, and all sales are final.

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ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 17,800 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper’s vision is to remain a “Place Where Everyone Matters.”