



### Friends of Union County Library and Our Bakeless Bake Sale

Because Union County Public Library is closed, all our library-based meetings and events are cancelled until further notice. We hope some events can be rescheduled when our library reopens; but, in the meantime, Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) wants to continue to advocate for libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning.

FOUCL is asking for donations to our first ever Bakeless Bake Sale. This replaces our usual May Mother's Day bake sale. Money raised from this sale will be given to Union County Public Library staff in celebration of National Library Workers Week. No baking or buying of baked goods is involved. Think about what you would have spent to bake or to buy – and, perhaps, add a little bit more. Cash or checks (made out to FOUCL, or Friends of Union County Library) should include a note that they are for BBS (Bakeless Bake Sale). Deadline for donations is Friday, May 15. Mail to: Friends of Union County Library; PO Box 1546; Blairsville, GA 30514.

This sale was first announced last week, and, thanks to the generosity of our community and FOUCL members, we have already begun receiving donations. One FOUCL member even creatively included a fairytale-style story of The Bakeless Bake Sale's origins:

The word got out about the FOUCL Bake Sale as Jackie and Sally began placing signs throughout Blairsville earlier that week. On Saturday the sale would begin at 9 a.m. sharp, so a very large sign was placed outside the Union County Public Library before everyone went home after an exhausting day of setting up - BAKE SALE TODAY!

Friends of the Union County Library had been busy setting up the day before for one of the biggest bake sales in many years. Dottie had brought in two loaves of her special 9-Grain Bread, which she baked weekly for her family. Mary's lemon bars were always a big seller, as she had them wrapped in cellophane spring colors. Others brought in peanut butter cookies, two cherry pies, brownies, two kinds of fudge, apricot balls, and much more.

After everyone had gone home for the evening, Muriel arrived with the most extraordinary springtime layered cake, covered with delicately pressed pastel colored flowers. The door of the library had been left open and Muriel thought that someone else must be coming to deliver goodies after her, so she left the door open the way she found it.

Unfortunately, the staff had already left for the day. They knew that Muriel was coming late, so decided to leave the door open. The door remained open all night.

Sometime during the night Mamma Bear and her two cubs got hungry and saw the door of the library open. “Hmm, never seen this before,” said Mamma Bear. “Better check this out!” As the three bears sauntered into the library, good smells beckoned them into the community room with more doors open. In about 45 minutes, they had cleaned up all of the goodies left for the Bake Sale. All, but Muriel’s springtime layered cake.

The three happy bears walked out patting their stomachs and feeling happy that nice people had left the doors open for them. Benji Bear said to his mother, “Some very nice people left food for us, right out of our hibernation.” Belinda Bear said, “But we did leave the beautifully decorated springtime cake. Someone will thank us for that.” They readily headed back to the woods, very giggly and full.

The next day when several of the Friends of the Union County Library walked into the library they were devastated. All of their hard work had been in vain. Jackie went outside, removed the sign, and put up a new one saying BAKE SALE CANCELLED.

Suddenly another Friend of the Library jumped out of her car and said, “I’ll buy the springtime layered cake with the pastel flowers. It’s just what I need for the dinner party I’m giving tonight.”

(Note from the Author: The above story is strictly fiction. The doors were never left open; bears didn’t eat up the baked goods; and, unfortunately, the real Bake Sale was cancelled for other reasons. But, in stressful times like this and with FOUCL deciding to have a Bakeless Bake Sale, I thought that an imaginary, humorous story to go with my donation for the springtime layered cake might be enjoyed. Jean A. Nethery)

FOUCL will pretend to bake as many make-believe cakes as we can sell. Would you like one?



**Advocating for Libraries,  
Literacy, and Lifelong Learning**