

# MOORE TIMES

[www.texascity-library.org](http://www.texascity-library.org)

Moore Memorial Public Library Newsletter

## LIBRARIES AND THE ECONOMY: TIMES MAY BE TOUGH, BUT YOUR LIBRARY IS HERE FOR YOU!



The Plaseks drop in to visit the library as a family.

There have been several stories in the news lately about how people across the country are using their libraries more often in these tough economic times. In fact, if you've been to Moore recently, you may have noticed more people in our library, too. That's because no matter what kind of news you're hearing on T.V., there is still a wealth of resources at your fingertips in the library – and they're available to you regardless of your income stream.

If you're a job-seeker, you can use the library to search and apply for jobs online, work on your resume and cover letters, apply for unemployment benefits online, or to find books and online resources to help you improve your job skills. If you've decided that you're ready to be your own boss, we have plenty of material on making a business plan and starting your own small business. If you're still nervous about using a computer and the internet, don't let yourself be left behind – we offer free computer classes for beginning users; come find out what you've been missing!

Most government agencies now offer online applications for services, and many patrons use library computers to print out their own tax forms, apply for social services like food stamps, Medicaid, and the CHIPS children's health insurance program, and register for Social Security retirement benefits.

If you're looking for ways to cut costs in your household, you may want to check out some

of our books on do-it-yourself home improvement, or if you're planning to eat at home more often, take a look at our cookbook section. Our new Chilton auto repair database is available for patrons who want to fix their own cars. And, of course, there has been a flood of new books in our personal finance section to advise you on how best to weather the financial crisis.

For students, we have lots of online and print resources to help get the homework finished. Whether you've got a 4<sup>th</sup> grader tackling a science project or are a college student trying to find literary criticism on the Romantic poets, we've got reliable information in print and online from our reference databases.

The relentless bad news on the state of the world has left some of us looking for a (cheap!) way to relax: don't worry, the library has you covered! You don't have to spend money to take a break from real life – just pick up a book or magazine (and the DVD's and CD's are free too). If you're not sure what to read, take a peek at our Reader's Advisory database (available on-site or from home, with your library card), or stop by the Reference Desk – we're happy to help you navigate the collection. Our goal is to help connect you to the information you need to live your best life now, regardless of the economy.

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Thomas Hurst checks out DVDs at the library.

## MOORE LIBRARY RECEIVES VISIT FROM CANADIAN AUTHOR



Janet Kitz (second from right), librarian Rebecca Snow (right) and others view items from the Moore archives.

In March, Moore Library welcomed Canadian author Janet Kitz to Texas City. Ms. Kitz has written several books on Canadian history, including two held by Moore Library that focus on the 1917 industrial explosion in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Ms. Kitz journeyed to Texas City to enjoy the local birding scene and to view some of

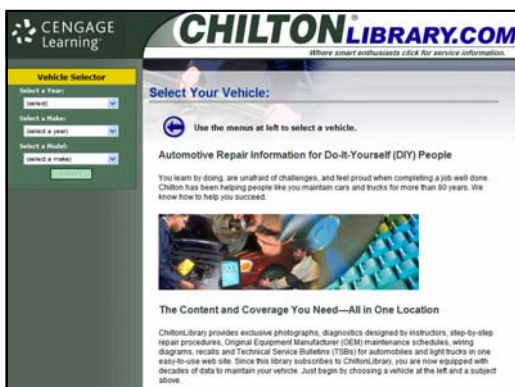
Moore Library's material on the Texas City disaster of 1947. Ms. Kitz has proposed that there are parallels between the Halifax explosion of 1917 and the explosion that occurred in Texas City disaster of 1947.

If you'd like to check out one of Ms. Kitz's books and decide for yourself, stop by the Reference Desk and we'll help you find it.

## TAX DAY 2009 – IT'S ALMOST HERE!

Tax day is April 15<sup>th</sup> – are you ready? The IRS has made all tax forms, instruction booklets and publications available through its website, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). This year, MMPL received only a limited number of instruction booklets from the IRS – no paper copies of tax forms are available at the library. We have dedicated one public computer solely for printing out IRS forms and instructions until April 15th, and our reference staff is happy to help patrons print forms from the IRS website. Printing costs are 10¢ per page.

## ATTENTION SHADE TREE MECHANICS: WE'VE GOT A NEW DATABASE FOR YOU!



Patrons of the year, make and models of their cars. The database provides repair instructions, service bulletins, and maintenance information specific to each model. It also includes diagrams and some online videos.

The database is available to all onsite patrons at the library, and patrons who have Moore library cards can also access it at home via the internet. Just go to the library's homepage, [www.texascity-library.org](http://www.texascity-library.org), and click on the "Connect to Library Databases" link. The link to the Chilton Library database is the first one on the list. For more information on our newest database – or any of our other materials – stop by the Reference Desk or give us a call at 643-5977.

base provides access to repair information for cars, trucks and SUV's up to 45 years old. Limited information is available on specific models older than that as well. Patrons can search for repair information based on

## NEW LAPTOPS AT THE LIBRARY

Moore Library recently purchased five additional laptop computers for patron use, bringing our total to ten. The new computers are all equipped with the Windows Vista operating system and Microsoft Office 2007 software. These new computers will allow us to conduct computer classes in the library's meeting room, as well as providing additional computers for patrons to use for internet browsing or research during our busiest times

of the day.

Complementing our new laptop purchases, the library also upgraded its wifi service so that we can accommodate more simultaneous wireless internet users. Moore Library offers free wireless internet access to patrons who wish to bring their personal laptops to the library. Be sure to charge your laptop batteries first, as we do not currently have electrical outlets for patron use.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

The library will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday and Saturday, April 10th and 11th (Easter weekend)

- Monday, May 25th (Memorial Day)

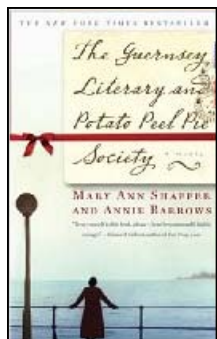
**BOOK CLUB:** "Book Bits" the book club for ages 18 and up continues to meet on the first

Wednesday of each month at 2PM. This informal group setting allows readers to share new & old print favorites, discuss controversial titles, compare favorite au-

thors and more. The group will meet on:

- May 6th
- June 3rd
- July 1st

## PREVIEW: TEXAS CITY READS 2009



We will be continuing our annual Texas City Reads program this August with the book *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

The novel is set in London, just after the end of World War II. The war is over, but the city still hasn't recovered from the bombings and the privations of the war years. The main character, Juliet, is a single author who has found a niche writing books that attempt to find "the sunny side" of the war and its aftermath.

Juliet finds herself casting about for the topic of her next book, and unexpectedly finds it when she receives a letter from an unknown man from Guernsey who came across her name and address in a used book. Guernsey is one of the English Channel Islands

lands, which were the only British territory occupied by the Germans during World War II. Juliet is moved to continue her correspondence with this man and many of his friends, who comprise the unique book club of the title. Juliet finds herself caught up in the Guernsey Islanders' stories of life under the Nazi occupation and ultimately decides to make a visit there that changes her life.

Told solely through the characters' letters to each other, the novel tackles difficult subject matter without losing sight of the characters' quiet heroism and ability to find humor in unexpected places.

The book discussion on *GLPPPS* will take place in August. If you'd like to get a head start on reading, the library currently holds print and audio copies of the book. Additional copies of the book will be available at the Circulation Desk in late May.

## APRIL COMPUTER CLASSES

Our computer classes are aimed at beginning to intermediate computer users. All attendees will be pre-screened for skill level before each class. The next set of computer classes will begin next fall. Check with the Reference Department beginning in August for the fall computer class schedule.

|  |                    |       |
|--|--------------------|-------|
| Computer Hardware                            | Thursday, April 2  | 10 AM |
| Further Tips and Tricks for Online Searching | Friday, April 3    | 10 AM |
| Beginning Email                              | Thursday, April 16 | 10 AM |
| Basic MS Word                                | Friday, April 17   | 10 AM |
| Basic MS Excel                               | Thursday, April 23 | 10 AM |
| Basic MS PowerPoint                          | Friday, April 24   | 10 AM |



Sherry Wilson browses the stacks.

**Sign-up & Registration Procedure:** Registration for ALL computer classes will occur THE DAY OF the scheduled class. All potential students must come to the library between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. on the day of the class for pre-class screening. Admission to the class will be granted on a first-come first-served basis for those persons successfully completing the pre-assessment survey exercise. Admission for most classes is limited to 10 persons per class.

For more information, please contact the Reference Desk at the library, 409-643-5977.

**SUMMER PREVIEW: CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

All Programs will be held in the Walter Holland Meeting Room. Tickets required for all events except from June 1-5.

| <b>A PLACE CALLED TEXAS</b>  |           |   |         |
|--|-----------|---|---------|
| June 1-5: <b>Texas Scavenger Hunt</b> Come to the library to get your passport...start collecting your stickers for a prize! |           |   |         |
| June 1-5: <b>FUN ACTIVITY</b> . Each day at 10 AM  |           |   |         |
| <b>GATEWAY TO THE OCEAN</b>  |           |   |         |
| Jun 8  | Ages 3-5  | Story time, Crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 9  | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 10   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 11   | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 11   | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Sea Stars, Seahorses, Sea shells | 2:30 PM |
| Jun 12   | Ages 9-12 | Computer Camp                                   | 10 AM   |
| <b>Gateway to the Stars</b>  |           |   |         |
| Jun 15   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 16   | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 17   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 18   | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 18   | Ages 3-12 | Special guest: Imagination Station              | 2:30 PM |
| <b>Gateway to the West</b>   |           |   |         |
| Jun 22   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 23   | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 24   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 25   | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 25   | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Cowboy                           | 2:30 PM |
| <b>Land of Amazing Animals</b>   |           |   |         |
| Jun 29   | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jun 30   | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| Jul 1  | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                              | 10 AM   |
| July 2   | Ages 9-12 | Story time, Crafts                              | 10 AM   |
|  |           |   |         |

| <b>Land of many cultures</b>              |           |   |         |
|---|-----------|---|---------|
| Jul 6                                     | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 7                                     | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 8                                     | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 9                                     | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 9                                     | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Deep in the Heart of Texas | 2:30 PM |
| Jul 10                                    | Ages 9-12 | Computer Camp                             | 10 AM   |
| <b>Land of Legends &amp; Folklore</b>     |           |   |         |
| Jul 13                                    | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 14                                    | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 16                                    | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 16                                    | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Texas City Museum          | 2:30 PM |
| <b>Land of heat</b>                       |           |   |         |
| Jul 20                                    | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 21                                    | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 23                                    | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 23                                    | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Coastal Animals            | 2:30 PM |
| Aug 1                                     | Ages 9-12 | Computer Camp                             | 10 AM   |
| <b>Land of Creativity &amp; Invention</b> |           |   |         |
| Jul 27                                    | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 28                                    | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 30                                    | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Jul 30                                    | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Coastal Fish               | 2:30 PM |
| <b>Land of Dreams &amp; the Future</b>    |           |   |         |
| Aug 3                                     | Ages 3-5  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Aug 4                                     | Ages 6-8  | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Aug 6                                     | Ages 9-12 | Story time, crafts                        | 10 AM   |
| Aug 6                                     | Ages 6-12 | Special guest: Bubble Mania!              | 2:30 PM |

## SUMMER PREVIEW: YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS (AGES 12-18)

All Programs will be held in the Walter Holland Meeting Room.

### GAMING AFTERNOONS: On

Tuesdays from June 5th through July 24th, we will be hosting gaming afternoons at the library in the Holland Meeting Room. Teens ages 12-18 can come to the library to play board games and online games. No tickets are required for these events.

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Tues. June 5th  | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. June 12th | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. June 19th | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. June 26th | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. July 10th | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. July 17th | 2 PM-4 PM |
| Tues. July 24th | 2 PM-4 PM |

### PROGRAMS AND OTHER FUN STUFF:

|                              |      |  |
|------------------------------|------|--|
| Mon. June 15th<br>(Ticketed) | 2 PM | Origami Workshop: amaze your friends and family with your paper-folding coolness!  |
| Mon. June 22nd<br>(Ticketed) | 2 PM | Library digital photography project: help us photograph a day in the life of the Moore Library – bring your digital camera, or we will provide one to use. |
| Mon. June 29th<br>(Ticketed) | 2 PM | Manga Mania: collaborate to create a round robin manga masterpiece!  |
| Mon. July 13th<br>(Ticketed) | 2 PM | Book-making workshop – bring interesting and/or beautiful pieces of paper or drawings to use as your cover.  |

## AP SUMMER READING FOR TCHS & LHS STUDENTS

This summer we will be reprising our AP Summer Reading Program for students of Texas City and LaMarque Schools. Beginning in June, students in AP classes will be allowed to check out their summer reading books from the library. If students attend the book discussion of their summer reading material at Moore Library, they will be allowed to keep the book. For more information on this program, including book discussion dates, please check with the Reference Desk in late May.



Amber Donald takes time to relax and enjoy a magazine in the Periodical section.

## SUMMER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG ADULTS



Alyssa Stevens & Asher Brown use the library to study.

We are looking for teens or college applications, or they can use the volunteer hours to “work off” their library fines. Teens interested in this program should contact the Reference Desk at 409/643-5977. Children are encouraged to “read off” their fines to teen mentors. The library does not want fines to keep children from reading this summer! Children are encouraged to clear their blocked cards and practice their reading skills with a Chapter Chum. Children up to age eleven can reduce their book fines \$3.00 for every fifteen minutes of reading. *Please note that this program applies only to book fines and not fines from lost or damaged materials. Children may only read off their own fines, not those of other family members.*

Teen participants can choose to either use their volunteer hours to gain community service credit for honor societies

Moore Memorial Public Library  
1701 9th Avenue North  
Texas City, Texas 77590



### Friends Membership Form

Please return this form, along with your payment, to Friends of Moore Memorial PL, 1701 9th Avenue North, Texas City, TX 77590. Thank you for supporting the library.

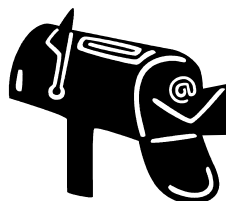
#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

*Please make checks payable to Friends of MMPL.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**The Friends' dues for calendar year 2009 (Jan. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2010) are the following:**

- Individual (\$10) \_\_\_\_
- Family (\$25) \_\_\_\_
- Senior Citizen 60+(\$5) \_\_\_\_
- Student (\$5) \_\_\_\_
- Sustaining (\$50) \_\_\_\_
- Valued Friend (\$100) \_\_\_\_
- Life Member (\$1,000) \_\_\_\_



If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically through E-mail please send Amelia a message at [achau@texas-city-tx.org](mailto:achau@texas-city-tx.org)