The library is excited to announce our latest local history endeavor, the Vietnam Era Oral History Project. We will soon begin conducting interviews with local veterans who served during the Vietnam war and who would be interested in sharing their experiences. If you’d like to know more, please stop by the Reference Desk and pick up a copy of the Volunteer Opportunities in Galveston County program on Thursday, April 21st at 4:30 PM in the Stephen F. Austin Room of the Charles T. Doyle Convention Center.

Representatives from AARP Tax-Aide of Galveston County, Boys and Girls Club of Galveston, Citizens Police Academy, Explorer Club, Galveston County Animal Shelter, Gleanings from the Harvest Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity of Clear Lake, and several other organizations will discuss their missions, volunteer opportunities, and requirements for involvement. Each organization will have a booth available, where representatives will provide information and answer any specific questions you may have. If you’d like further information about the program, or if your organization would like to be a part of this event, please contact the Reference Desk at 409-643-5977.

VOICES FROM THE PAST: VIETNAM WAR ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically through Email please send the Webmaster a message at lragsdale@texas-city-tx.org.
All library programs are FREE to attend. All programs will be held in the Library Meeting Room unless noted.

**LEGO Problem-Solving**
Kids ages 8-12 will solve a fun and challenging problem using LEGOs. Challenge your mind and stretch your creativity!
**When:** Saturday, April 23rd at 1 PM

**File Management**
Learn how to organize and find files within your computer. Laptops are available for the first 10 who sign up for the program. Sign-up will be at the Reference Desk or by calling 409-643-5977. You must be registered by Monday, April 11th to attend.
**When:** Tuesday, April 19th at 1 PM

**Morningstar Database Overview**
Learn about our Morningstar Investment Research Center database. We will be giving an overview of the database, and you will receive a handout that you can take with you.
**When:** Wednesday, April 13th Mandatory pre-test at 1:30 PM Class at 2 PM

**Volunteer Opportunities in Galveston County**
Learn about volunteer opportunities in your community. Speak with representatives from many local organizations looking for volunteers.
**When:** Thursday, April 21st at 4:30 PM

**HeritageQuest/Ancestry.com Overview**
Our local history librarian will present an hour long overview of HeritageQuest Online and Ancestry.com (Library Edition). The first ten patrons can also work with Heritage Quest on our laptops.
**When:** Thursday, April 7th at 10 AM

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**Special Programs (Ages 12-18):**

**Manga Crafts**
Thursday, June 16

**Post-it Note Art**
Thursday, June 30

**Cosplay Crafts and Contest**
Thursday, July 14

**No Sew Pillows and Crafts**
Thursday, July 28

**YOU DREAM IT, YOU MAKE IT: BOARD GAMES YOU’VE NEVER PLAYED**

**On Fridays from June 10th through August 5th from 2-5 PM, we will host gaming afternoons in the Meeting Room for teens ages 12-18. Play board games, strategy games, and card games like you’ve NEVER played before. We have:**

- **Domino Revolution**
- **Labyrinth**
- **Forbidden Island**
- **Settlers of Catan**
- **Fluxx**
- **The Phantom Society**
- **And MORE!!**

**SETTLERS OF CATAN TOURNAMENT:** Friday, June 24th we will have a SUPER-SPECIAL Board Game Friday! We will give several FREE games of Settlers of Catan to the winners of our Settlers of Catan Tournament! There is a mandatory sign-up for the tournament. Sign-up from June 6th–June 18th at the Reference Desk. But that’s not all, we will have a door prize or prizes every week! So be there every Friday, because it pays to play at the library!
MONDAYS AT 2 PM FROM JUNE 13TH TO AUGUST 1ST TEENS AGES 12-18 WILL BUILD ROBOTS! WE HAVE THE LEGO MINDSTORMS KITS. WE NEED A FEW (OR MORE) GOOD TEENS

We are looking for teens (ages 13-18) willing to extend a helping hand to young readers this summer.

As a VolunTeen you listen to young readers (Chapter Chums) practice reading out loud so they keep up their reading skills and reduce their overdue fines. Volun Teens also help keep the library neat, keep the YP FIC organized, photograph library events, and more!

With this volunteer time, you can either “work” off your fines (at a rate of $3 per 30 minutes) or gain volunteer service credit for colleges—we will document your service.

We need two will build their robot, learn how to program it, and test it out in a series of challenges. Build up robots from easy-to-follow instructions or design your own brilliant creation!

We have a maximum of 10 spots per program, so be there early to snag your spot. If you have any questions, ask at the Reference Desk or call (409) 643-5977.

MINDSTORMS WILL BE ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAYS:
- June 13th 2 PM - 4 PM
- June 20th 2 PM - 4 PM
- June 27th 2 PM - 4 PM
- July 11th 2 PM - 4 PM
- July 18th 2 PM - 4 PM
- July 25th 2 PM - 4 PM
- August 1st 2 PM - 4 PM

ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEEN MUST COME TO A MANDATORY ORIENTATION. CURRENT VOLUNTEERS DO NEED TO ATTEND AN ORIENTATION SESSION TO VOLUNTEER IN THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY. THESE ORIENTATIONS WILL BE ON:
- FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH AT 1 PM
- FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH AT 1 PM

For more information, ask the Reference Desk or call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977. *Please note that this program applies only to overdue fines and not fines from lost or damaged materials. Participants may only work off their own fines, not those of other family members.

COME SEE OUR NEW FULLY AUTOMATED DOORS! JUST WALK UP TO THE LIBRARY AND OUR NEW DOORS WILL OPEN FULLY TO WELCOME YOU IN.

THE LIBRARY IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW MICROFILM READER AND SCANNER. NOW Patrons can easily access and print all of our microfilm materials.

This includes the archives of the Texas City Sun newspaper, currently available only on microfilm. Published from 1909-2004 (under several different names), the Sun is a record of the day-to-day history of our community.

For information on using our microfilm reader, please stop by the Reference Desk or call us at (409) 643-5977.

EXPLORE YOUR ROOTS: USING ANCESTRY.COM AND HERITAGEQUEST ONLINE

Have you ever wondered where you come from? Studying the roots of your family tree can be a rewarding and affirming experience, but it’s very hard to know where to begin.

Heritage Quest Online is a genealogy database with 25,000 family and local histories, the complete U.S. Census from 1790-1940, and much more.

Ancestry.com (Library Edition) is the world’s largest online resource for family history. The service offers billions of historical records that have been digitized, indexed and posted online. It works with national, state and local government archives, historical societies, religious institutions and private collectors. Local History Librarian Tami Saldana Sutton will show you how to use these databases and start your research.

This class will be held on Thursday, April 7th at 10 AM in the library meeting room. We will provide laptops, but we are limited to 10 attendees. For more information, please call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

WE NEED A FEW (OR MORE) GOOD TEENS

The library is proud to announce the installation of a new microfilm reader and scanner. Now patrons can easily access and print all of our microfilm materials.

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Explore your roots using Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest Online.
Get ready to get reading! From June 6th through August 13th, children, teens, and adults can participate in individual reading programs. At MMPL we want our entire community to read and read often, so we’ve got prizes for readers of all ages.

We have 2 logs for kids 12 and under. The “Growing Reader” log is for younger children who listen to or have help reading 40 stories. The “Reader” log is for older children able to read on their own. For every 40 stories or 10 hours read (depending on which log is used), kids get to choose a book from our prize box. There is no limit to the number of logs you can turn in, so the more you read, the more books you receive.

Readers ages 12-18 who turn in their first 10 hours on a reading log before the August 13th deadline will receive a brand new book! Every 10 hours after that gets you entered into our bookstore gift certificate prize drawing at the end of the summer.

For adults every 10 hours of reading gets you entered into our drawing for a bookstore gift certificate! The more you read, the more chances you have to win.

This year, every finished log turned in adds a fish with your initials to get caught by our own Library worm, Sir-Read-a-lot. We want to have enough little fish to fill the ocean, so get those logs in!

Adult and teen reading logs can be picked up at the Reference Desk, and children’s reading logs can be picked up at the Children’s Reference Desk starting June 6th. To earn prizes you must turn in your reading logs in by Saturday, August 13th at 3 PM. If you have any questions about our Summer Reading programs, please call our Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

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 teen mentor in our Chapter Chum program. Children up to age twelve can reduce their book fines by $3.00 for every 15 minutes of reading. Chapter Chums are available to listen to children read off their fines from 1-3 PM Monday through Friday during the months of June and July. Interested children should report to the Reference Desk.

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.

It’s a jungle out there! However, all the jungles are pretty far away, so educators from Moody Gardens will bring the jungle to us. On Tuesday, June 21st at 2 PM rainforest experts will bring the wonder and awe of the tropical rainforests to life for kids ages 6-12. You’ll learn about the amazing flora and fauna (plants and animals) of the rainforest and why protecting it is so important for the whole planet. Best yet, there will be plenty of amazing real-life rainforest artifacts to see and touch! Get ready to get wild!

On Tuesday, June 28th at 2 PM Docents from the Houston Museum of Natural Science will be here to teach kids age 6-12 about paleontology. Learn how paleontologists dig up the past. See how living organisms are transformed into fossils. Find out what fossils reveal about prehistoric life. Kids will get to touch and see real artifacts from the past brought from the museum. It’s a hands on learning experience that you don’t want to miss!