In October, two local authors will visit the library to discuss their books on Texas history.

First, on Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30 PM discover the “First Road to Texas” with author Gary L. Pinkerton as he discusses his book *Trammel’s Trace: the first road to Texas from the North*. Recognized as the first route from the United States into the northern boundaries of Spanish Texas, this road was engineered by trader and horse smuggler Nicholas Trammel. It ran from the Red River in Arkansas to Nacogdoches, Texas, before continuing westward. Following Mexican Independence from Spain in 1821, the route’s primary use became immigration into Texas from the north. Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing.

Then, return to the Gulf Coast and uncover the truth behind “Texas and Texas City Shipwrecks” on Thursday, October 19 at 1:30 PM. Author Mark Lardas will tell how Texas entered into written history with a shipwreck on Galveston Island in the 16th Century and how shipwrecks have continued to affect Texas history. From storms and battles to navigation errors and industrial accidents, ships have been destroyed on and along the Texas coast. Lardas, a student of Texas maritime history, has published over 20 books on the subject. Copies of his book *Texas Shipwrecks* will be available for sale and signing.

Both programs will be held in the Holland Meeting Room. For information about these programs, please call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

**A Double-Dose of Texas History in October**

T **o assist you in the Hurricane Harvey recovery process, the library has created a Disaster Relief and Recovery webpage, accessible from the library’s homepage (www.texascity-library.org). Additionally, the Texas State Law Library and Texas Law Help have created online resources for individuals seeking legal assistance.**

**Disaster Relief Resources**

The **Texas State Law Library** (guides.sll.texas.gov/disaster-relief) has a disaster relief page dedicated to providing general legal information and resources. They have information regarding frequently asked legal questions, Texas court closures and delays, and safety and shelter resources. **Texas Law Help** (www.texaslawhelp.org) has helpful resources for people in need of legal information regarding Hurricane Harvey relief and disaster assistance.
FALL 2017 PROGRAMS

All library programs are FREE to attend. All programs will be held in the Library Meeting Room.

Trammel’s Trace: the First Road to Texas from the North — Trammel’s Trace, named for a borderlands smuggler, was an important passageway into early Texas. Local author Gary L. Pinkerton will share his love of Texas history and discuss the research that resulted in the publishing of this book.

When: Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30 PM

Google Maps — Learn how to search for a location on the virtual map and retrieve directions for driving, public transportation, cycling and walking.

When: Tuesday, October 10th at 1:30 PM

Texas and Texas City Shipwrecks — Mark Lardas, the author of Texas Shipwrecks, will show how shipwrecks – from Cabeza de Vaca’s involuntary visit to Galveston Island in the 16th century through shipwrecks into the 21st century – are part of Texas’s maritime heritage, and how they have touched Texas and Texas City.

When: Thursday, October 19th at 1:30 PM

Legal Databases — The library provides access to two FREE legal databases where you can retrieve legal forms and information. Join the Reference Librarian for an overview of the library’s subscription legal databases.

When: Friday, October 20th at 10:00 AM

Introduction to Apps— Bring your smartphone or tablet and learn the basics of apps, including how to download and navigate them.

When: Tuesday, October 24th at 1:30 PM

Introduction to Basic Drawing — Artist Randy Ramirez will lead a class on basic drawing. Come and learn about the lines and shapes that are the foundation for landscape and still-life drawings. All materials will be provided.

When: Tuesday, November 7th at 1:30 PM

Marine Mammal Stranding Network — A member of the Marine Mammal Stranding Network in Galveston will discuss the work they do, the local populations of marine mammals, the threats they face, and how the public can help. This program is suitable for all ages.

When: Monday, November 20th at 2:00 PM

Now’s your chance to pitch in and help the library run more smoothly. Apply to be a volunteer at the library this fall and help prepare materials for programs and keep the library neat and organized. As volunteers, teens (ages 13-18) can earn volunteer service credits for college applications, fulfill service organization requirements, such as National Honor Society, and even add their time at the library to their first resume. Once applications are submitted, teens will be contacted by our Volunteer Coordinator to schedule a mandatory volunteer orientation. After attending the orientation, our new VolunTeens can sign up for their volunteer hours! Applications are available at the library Reference Desk. Unfortunately, volunteering with the library cannot be used for court-ordered community service.

CALLING ALL manga and anime fanatics: whether you’re a hardcore fan or just discovering your favorites, the Anime & Manga Club is the perfect place to meet new people, watch great anime, eat snacks, and have fun! The next meeting will be Friday, October 6th at 4:15 PM.

Play board games, strategy games, and card games like you’ve NEVER played before. We have selected fun, award-winning games that are totally unlike any board games you’ve ever played! We have King of Tokyo, Settlers of Catan, Fluxx, Munchkin, Forbidden Island, Dominion, Labyrinth, Pandemic, and many more. The next meetings are Tuesday, November 21st and Tuesday, December 26th at 2:00-4:00 PM.
For more information about children’s programming call the Children’s Department at (409) 643-5983 or 643-5966.

HELP YOUR LITTLE ONE READ 1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Join the free early literacy program, 1,000 Books before Kindergarten, and encourage your child’s curiosity about reading and learning. The program is as simple as it sounds; read 1,000 books to your child before they start Kindergarten! You will be surprised at how quickly you will reach 1,000 books by just reading to your child at your natural pace. If you read just 1 book a night, you will have read 365 books in a year. That is 730 books in two years and 1,095 books in three years!

Sign your child up for the program in the Children’s Department Monday-Friday 9 AM-6 PM. Once you sign up, you will receive a welcome folder with all the information you’ll need along with your first two log sheets to record the first 200 books you read together. You could also opt to record your books on the mobile app provided on the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten website. You will receive stickers and prizes for certain goals when you return to the library with completed logs. When you complete your 10th and final log, you will have read 1,000 books together! Visit the Children’s Department to get your little one signed up today!

FALL CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING

Target the development of your child’s literacy skills by attending our fall children’s programs.

Don’t miss Toddlerific Storytime on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM for children ages 1-3. Children will listen to stories, interact through fingerplays, sing songs together, and have an opportunity to learn during playtime. Preschool Storytime is held every Wednesday at 10:00 AM for children ages 3-5. Children will enjoy stories, interact with fingerplays, sing songs, and assemble a craft. All Storytimes are held in the Holland Meeting Room.

The Children’s Department will also host holiday break activities in November and December. Activities during the breaks will include scavenger hunts, craft activities, felt boards, and more. Some of the educational toys used during library storytimes will be set out for toy tryout sessions for toddlers and preschoolers. Come by and see if your child enjoys playing with these types of toys before buying them!

Join us for LEGO Free Build and take your creations to the next-level with our LEGO sets. Build with a group or on your own, either way the sky’s the limit for how tall, big, and unique your creations can be. This program is for ages 6-14. The next meetings are Wednesday, November 22nd and Wednesday, December 27th at 1:30 PM.

FALL COMPUTER CLASSES

Improve your computer skills this fall by attending one of our basic computer classes. Learn to use the mouse, get started with email, start searching the Internet, learn to use Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel, and create and save files using Windows 10. You’ll learn foundational skills you’ll need to begin using the computer. To attend, sign-up in advance of the class and follow the procedures below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pre-Test</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 5</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Setting Up an Email Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 6</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Email (must already have an account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 12</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 13</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Windows: Files &amp; Saving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 19</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 26</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Mouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 27</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Computers: Keyboard &amp; Terminology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 2</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Setting Up an Email Account</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 3</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Email (must already have an account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 9</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Word II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 10</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM</td>
<td>Basic Excel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sign-up Procedure: Registration for each computer class opens one week prior to the scheduled class date, and remains open until 3 days prior. Register in person at the Reference Desk or by phone at (409) 643-5977. Space is limited, so please call to cancel 24 hours prior to the class if you’re unable to attend. If you miss 2 sessions without cancelling 24 hours in advance, your future attendance will be limited. Arrive between 9:30-10 AM to complete the mandatory pre-test designed to evaluate your skill set.

NEWS BRIEFS

LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS: The library will be closed on the following dates:

- Thanksgiving Day: The library will close at 6 PM on Wednesday, November 22. The library will be closed November 23, 24, & 25. The library will re-open Monday, November 27 at 9 AM.
- Christmas: The library will close at 6 PM on December 18-21. The library will be closed December 22-25. The library will re-open Tuesday, December 26 at 9AM.
- New Years: The library will be closed Monday, January 1. The library will re-open Tuesday, January 2 at 9 AM.

Texas City Ancestry Searchers — This local genealogy group hosts monthly speakers and discusses matters related to family history research. Join them for their first fall meeting.
When: Wednesday, October 18th at 1:00 PM
LEARN TO USE OUR LEGAL DATABASES

Do you need help finding legal information and forms? While our librarians cannot give legal advice, the library subscribes to two legal databases that can help you. Join our Reference Librarian on Friday, October 20th at 10 AM and learn how to find and print simple legal forms or contracts, ranging from power of attorney to property leases. You will also learn how to perform more in depth research on a specific topic. Other available resources will also be discussed. The first 10 people to arrive will have access to our laptops to explore these sites. For more information about this class, please call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

INTRODUCTION TO BASIC DRAWING

Local artist and Library Support Staff Assistant, Randy Ramirez, will lead an Introduction to Basic Drawing class on Tuesday, November 7th at 1:30 PM in the Holland Meeting Room. Mr. Ramirez has been drawing since he was five years old and received formal training at both the College of the Mainland and the University of Houston—Clear Lake. His art was recently chosen for display along with over 50 other artists at the Pancakes & Booze Art Show, a traveling art show that visits over 30 cities annually, in Houston this past June. For his class, Mr. Ramirez will focus on identifying lines and shapes, which form the foundation for all drawings. This class is open to artists of ALL levels. All materials will be provided. For more information about this program, please call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

BRING THE FAMILY AND LEARN ABOUT RESCUING MARINE MAMMALS

On Monday, November 20th at 2 PM, the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network (TMMSN) will discuss their mission to conserve marine mammals. The TMMSN will present an interactive program on the organization’s efforts to rescue, rehabilitate, conduct research, and provide education on stranded marine mammals in our area. The goal of the TMMSN is to respond to all reports of stranded or injured marine mammals found along the Texas coast and provide the necessary first aid and transfer of marine mammals to secure facilities. Attendees of this library program will have the opportunity to handle and discuss marine mammal bones and participate in a mock stranding demonstration. This program is free and open to all ages, so please bring the whole family and learn what efforts are being made to preserve the unique marine life of the Texas Gulf Coast. For more information about this program, please call the Reference Desk at (409) 643-5977.

THE VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Veterans Oral History Project is still accepting applications from Galveston County veterans of the Korean and Vietnam eras. The project welcomes veterans who served in any branch of the military between 1950-1975. Brief applications are available at the Reference Desk. Once submitted, veterans are contacted by the Local History Librarian to schedule an interview date. Topics covered in the interviews include: early life and childhood, early days of service, military service, and returning home. However, no experience is the same and interviews are tailored to fit the veteran’s experience. All interviews are digital video recordings and will be used in an online exhibit by the library, added to our local history collection, and copies will also be submitted to the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

If you have any questions about the Project, please call our Local History Librarian, Paloma, at (409) 949-3007.

1867 SETTLEMENT ONLINE EXHIBIT

The 1867 Settlement celebrates its 150th anniversary this fall. The 1867 Settlement is the only freedmen’s settlement in Galveston County, located in west Texas City. It was founded by freedmen turned cowboys who worked on the Butler Ranch in what is now League City following Emancipation. The library’s online exhibit covers the history of the founding families and the community’s growth and change from the Reconstruction-era through the mid-twentieth century. The area is marked by several historical markers honoring the unique history and origins of the African American community.

To access the online exhibit, visit the library homepage (www.texascitylibrary.org) and click “Local History” at the top of the page to be taken to the online exhibits page. If you have any questions about the exhibit, please call the Local History Librarian at (409) 949-3007.