Galveston County Commissioners Court Approves Library System Budget

On Monday, September 23, 2019, the Galveston County Commissioners Court approved a $593,000 budget amendment for the enhancement of library services throughout the county. Funding from Galveston County is vitally important to all eight of the public libraries in the county. The public libraries use county funding to purchase books, DVDs, newspaper and magazine subscriptions, e-book and e-audio book subscriptions, database subscriptions, summer reading club programming for kids and courier service, which enables each of the libraries to efficiently share resources for interlibrary loans for patrons.

The generous support from the Galveston County also covers the entire cost of extension services, which delivers rotating collections of circulating library materials to homebound patrons and to more than forty facilities around the county, including nursing homes, retirement centers, daycare centers, schools and to the smaller public libraries.

Galveston County Library System Extension Services

Extension Services, based out of Rosenberg Library, serves Galveston County’s most vulnerable and needy citizens at opposite ends of the age spectrum. More than 150 library materials are delivered on a daily basis (39k items per year) to preschool students, residents at assisted living facilities, and county residents who are no longer able to leave their homes to visit the library. Books are also delivered to public schools and smaller libraries to help bolster their collections and provide their patrons with a wider selection of materials. Extension Services is in high demand as both populations of elderly and the very young continue to grow. There were more than 600 requests for service in 2016, and over 800 requests for service in 2018. We are on track to receive 800 requests for 2019.

Marilyn Lyons, Extension Services staff clerk, drives more than 6,000 miles per year across the county, including making deliveries to Bolivar Island. She serves over 3,000 community partners at over 40 locations. Materials delivered include more than just books; audiobooks, CDs, large-type materials, and children’s materials are included. Extension Services strives to provide library service to members of our population with the least amount of access. By providing library service to these populations, we are increasing their quality of life, bridging the information gap, and promoting literacy, especially to the very young. For more information on Extension Services, please contact Jesús Moya at (409) 763-8854, ext.137.

Extension Services Department and activities are entirely funded through financial support from the Galveston County Commissioners Court.
Summer Reading at LMPL: Along with regularly scheduled storytimes and Art Club, two programs were added during June and July to capture the Universe of Stories theme: Space Place and Blastoff Stories. Most programs had a space theme or involved a science activity related to the universe. Participants tracked time spent reading and earned incentive prizes throughout the summer, including free books, water bottles and t-shirts. Highlights of summer programs included Make-and-Take Alien Headbands, Nebula Jars and a visit from NASA astronaut Scott Tingle. Summer reading 2019 concluded with a spacefest celebration on Saturday August 3.

La Marque Library Lit Club Welcomes Galveston Community Band

Lit Club welcomed guests from Galveston Community Band on May 1. Band members taught about different characteristics of brass, woodwind and percussion instruments then performed several pieces. After the music, band members partnered with children for some one-on-one reading practice.

LMPL Art Club

Create with us every Tuesday at 5:00
Moore Memorial Public Library closed to the public on Monday, August 5 to begin a much-needed renovation project. This renovation will transform the interior of the library and will allow us to greatly improve the services we offer. The library’s entryway will be transformed into a lounge area equipped with comfortable seating and vending machines for food and drinks. The children’s department will include an interactive play area for our youngest users.

There will be seating areas scattered throughout the library with new, comfortable furniture, and with many outlets for plugging in and charging devices. We will be adding two small study rooms for individuals to reserve and two group meeting/study areas that will be equipped with technology enabling audio visual presentations. We will also be adding six new family-style restrooms. The estimated date of completion is sometime in December.

What is the library staff doing while the library is closed?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions concerning the library closure for renovations. The answer is that we are quite busy, using this unique opportunity to work on special projects and to expand our community outreach. Our librarians are focusing on collection development, including our electronic collections. We are also working with the librarians in Texas City Independent School District to determine how we can work together for the benefit of our students and the community. This has included using our library workers as aides in TCISD schools and will soon lead to year-long storytimes at TCISD elementary schools.

We will be participating in several upcoming Texas City events like Touch-A-Truck on Saturday October 26th and Hallowpalooza on Thursday, October 31st. Our local history librarian is supervising several digitization projects that will make our archival holdings more accessible to the public and working on our African American Oral History Project. We may be closed, but we will still be providing reference services by phone or email, so keep your questions coming!

We can be reached at (409) 643-5977 or by email at webmaster@texascitytx.gov.

There are multiple ways patrons can keep up-to-date during the closure. Bookmark the library’s website (www.texascity-library.org) for updates on children’s programs and pop-up appearances we may make throughout the city. Or follow the library’s Facebook page (@moorepubliclibrary) and our Instagram (@mmpltxc) for ongoing updates. Our staff can still be contacted for general inquiries and reference questions.

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Upcoming Events:

- Virtual Reality
- Petting Zoo
- Harry Potter Night of Wizardry
- Mad Hatter Tea Party
- Brunch with Santa
- Storytimes
- New Year Celebrations: Don’t Drop the Ball!
- Baby Formal Dance

This group of kids successfully completed the ESCAPE ROOM mission.

Our Mission: Remaining relevant and important for generations to come.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Operating Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friendswood Public Library</td>
<td>416 S. Friendswood Drive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.friendswood.lib.tx.us">www.friendswood.lib.tx.us</a></td>
<td>(281) 482-7135</td>
<td>Mon-Thurs 10 am to 9 pm, Fri, Sat 10 am to 6 pm, Closed Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>League City Public Library</td>
<td>Helen Hall Library</td>
<td><a href="http://www.leaguecitylibrary.org">www.leaguecitylibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(281) 554-1111</td>
<td>Mon-Thurs 10 am to 9 pm, Fri, Sat 10 am to 6 pm, Sun 1 pm to 5 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitchcock Public Library</td>
<td>Genevieve Miller Library</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hitchcockpubliclibrary.org">www.hitchcockpubliclibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(409) 986-7814</td>
<td>Tue, Wed &amp; Fri 10 am to 5 pm, Thurs 10 am to 6 pm, Sat 10 am to 3 pm, Closed Sunday &amp; Monday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosenberg Library</td>
<td>2310 Sealy Street</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rosenberg-library.org">www.rosenberg-library.org</a></td>
<td>(409) 763-8854</td>
<td>Mon-Thurs 9 am to 9 pm, Fri, Sat 9 am to 6 pm, Closed Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Galveston &amp; Texas History Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Currently closed for remodeling</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dickinson Public Library</td>
<td>4411 Highway 3</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dickinsonpubliclibrary.org">www.dickinsonpubliclibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(281) 534-3812</td>
<td>Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am to 5 pm, Tue, Thurs 10 am to 6 pm, Sat 10 am to 2 pm, Closed Sunday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Moore Memorial Library</td>
<td>1701 9th Avenue N.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.texascitylibrary.org">www.texascitylibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(409) 643-5979</td>
<td>Mon-Wed 9 am to 9 pm, Thur, Fri 9 am to 6 pm, Sat 10 am to 4 pm, Closed Sunday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Marque Public Library</td>
<td>1011 Bayou Road</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lamarquelibrary.org">www.lamarquelibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(409) 938-9270</td>
<td>Tue, Wed 10 am to 6 pm, Thurs 10 am to 7 pm, Fri, Sat 9 am to 4 pm, Closed Sunday &amp; Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Public Library</td>
<td>Mae Bruce Library</td>
<td><a href="http://www.maebrucelibrary.org">www.maebrucelibrary.org</a></td>
<td>(409) 925-5540</td>
<td>Mon-Wed, Fri 10 am to 6 pm, Thurs 12 to 8 pm, Sat 10 am to 1:30 pm, Closed Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
The Rosenberg Library has recently acquired two Oculus Rift headsets for use in various library programming. The virtual reality (VR) units are designed to be used by people from all walks of life, regardless of their past exposure to technology, making them a wonderful tool to use in programs and they are perfect for any age or intended audience. The headsets have been utilized in over 15 events and programs for both children and teens, and have been a huge success.

The Children’s Department has included several educational games in concurrence with the 2019 Summer Reading Program’s *A Universe of Stories* theme, including NASA’s Exoplanet Excursions, BBC Home: A VR Spacewalk, and the overwhelmingly popular Mission: ISS where participants can explore the International Space Station as though they are astronauts themselves.

The Teen Summer programs also took advantage of the VR units, using them once a week to play a variety of games including the much-loved music-based workout Beat Saber and action packed iRobot-esque Robo Recall.

Virtual reality has been utilized within the architectural and healthcare industries. For architects, they can harness the power of VR to walk through models of buildings to evaluate their designs, which saves time and money. In healthcare, VR is used for a wide range of applications such as diagnosis, surgery, rehab, and preventative medicine and education. Dental schools have been promoting the use of VR by allowing students to practice a range of common procedures that include applying fillings and other techniques to better their trade. Similarly, VR is used to educate patients on the effects of positive lifestyle choices through preventative medicine.

The library plans to have many more programs centered around the VR units, and is currently looking into other potential Oculus Rift headsets and what they can offer library patrons.

For more information, please contact the Rosenberg Library Computer Lab staff at (409) 763-8854, ext. 132.
Recently Digitized Collections from the Galveston and Texas History Center

Staff and volunteers at the Rosenberg Library’s Galveston and Texas History Center continue to digitize photographs and manuscripts that document Galveston and Texas’ rich history. Digitization provides patrons both local and remote access to historically valuable material. Recently digitized collections include:

- **G-Files: Religion** – photographs of churches, synagogues, clergy, religious services and ceremonies, and lay organizations.

- **G-Files: Restaurants** – photographs of the Balinese Room, the Hollywood Dinner Club, and various other restaurants, cafes, and saloons.

- **G-Files: Social Activity** – photographs of Mardi Gras, the Oleander Festival, Sangerfest, Splash Day, and local events.

- **G-Files: Sports** – photographs of sports teams, the Galveston Buccaneers, automobile races, horse races, the Golden Days races, and many other sports activities.

- **Samuel May Williams papers** – the earliest manuscripts from the collection of Samuel May Williams, an important figure during the Texas Revolution. Correspondents include Stephen F. Austin, Juan Davis Bradburn, Santa Anna, and Juan Seguín.

The majority of this work has been done by two dedicated volunteers, John Wolbrecht and Laura Matteson, and GTHC’s Senior Archivist, Sean McConnell. These collections have been digitized in-house, which kept them available to researchers throughout the process.

How can you find more? Click on “Search Archives Catalog” from the Galveston and Texas History Center’s homepage at galvestonhistorycenter.org. For more information, contact Sean McConnell, Senior Archivist at smcconnell@rosenberg-library.org or call the Rosenberg Library at (409) 763-8854, x 127.
Friendswood Library Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11

The Friendswood Public Library was honored to play a role in Friendswood’s celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11. The library hosted four separate panel discussions with NASA astronauts, flight directors, engineers, and support team personnel. Some of the discussions included the Origins of NASA with NACA and Langley, a thorough discussion of the Apollo 11 Space Suit and advanced suits for future exploration, and a discussion of Flight Control and Recovery with flight director Glynn Lunney and recovery specialist John Stonesifer. Other events included an Ask An Astronaut event with veteran astronauts Jerry Ross, Bill McArthur, and Mike Foreman, and several opportunities for an Apollo 11 Virtual Reality Experience throughout the month of July. Nearly 1,000 people visited the Friendswood Library during July to enjoy one or more of these Apollo 11 experiences.

Summer Author Series at Dickinson Public Library

Dickinson Public Library hosted three author events this summer. We were pleased to have Ernie Deats, one of Dickinson’s own, who spoke on his new novel, Bess and Bone. We also had renowned international author Odette Mendez Paz, who read from her newest collection of published poems, Voces unidas en el Potosi. Our last authors for the summer series were Chris O’Shea Roper and Tom Linton with illustrator Joseph A. Hoover. Their newly published book, Legacy of the Early Gulf Coast Cowboys, is a riveting look at the “salt-grass” cowboys of our region from the early 1700’s on.
**Hitchcock Library - Upcoming Events**

**October 26th, 1:00 p.m. - Annual Trunk or Treat and Costume Festival.** Children ages 2 to 12 will have fun participating in the costume contest and then will get to “Trunk or Treat”. From one trunk, each child will get to pick a book for their treat. There will be games, a moonwalk and popcorn, too.

**November 16th** - Children get to make a great edible treat - an "Oreo Turkey". A turkey story will be read!

**December 14th** - The annual Christmas Open House - come meet Santa and Mrs. Claus - there will be music and craft vendors.

**December 21st** - Children will try their hand at making Jumping Elf Puppets

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**A Universe of Stories at Hitchcock Library**

This summer, 136 children participated in the Summer Reading Program with 39 children attending library programs. 97 children became “Out of this World” readers while 3,989 books were checked out by these super readers. There was so much going on, including games like the “moon phase cookie” and sss-snake identification. There were fun crafts such as making straw rockets, slithery snakes, clay aliens, galaxy mobile, galaxy slime and paper roll aliens.

Everyone enjoyed learning about Texas snakes, magic with Monty Magician, tricks with hula-hoops and weather with Wally Wise Guy.

The children also got to meet a Jedi and Darth Vader at a Star Wars Party and Captain Zark. What fun it was to learn about living in space and tasting food that astronauts eat with Space Center Houston. The Houston Astronomical Society and the Houston Museum of Natural Science taught the children about outer space, the planets, galaxies and stars.
Volunteer Program at Helen Hall Library - Something for Everyone

The Volunteer Program at Helen Hall Library is celebrating a recent revamping of the program! Since the introduction of the new volunteer COST system here at the library, our volunteer program now averages more than 300 hours between our teen and adult volunteers. The COST system focuses on the areas of content, outreach, systems, and tutoring. By creating new opportunities through our volunteer program, we have grown the impact of the library beyond its physical border.

Volunteers have worked hand in hand with the volunteer coordinator to create all types of promotional content for the library from book reviews to green screen videos used to promote library programs via social media. This led to the development of our interactive video series, “LIVE @ THE LIBRARY”. This series co-directed by volunteers highlights library staff, events, projects, and literature.

Programs such as Senior Book Buddies help to provide a strong sense of community and connection between the library and the communities we serve. Each month, with the help of library volunteers, we provide registered senior citizens with literary selections from Helen Hall through readers’ advisory and the utilization of library databases. Volunteers enjoy the chance to meet with residents on delivery days and discuss new books, authors, and upcoming events. Another outreach that is creating quite the buzz around the city is our YMCA reading outreach. Cultivated in the summer in partnership with the Perry Center YMCA, this program aims to provide opportunities for adult volunteers with a passion for children’s books and helping young readers. What’s great about this program is that twice a week volunteers get a chance to perform storytime and help build impactful relationships with youth. Youth are encouraged to ask a question and participate in reading along with volunteers. There is truly never a dull moment during this weekly outreach initiative.

Perhaps the most well-known area of the COST system is the systems group. This group is known for traditional library functions such as shelving, weeding, and organizing, but of course, under this new revamping, we have made it more fun and inclusive for all volunteers. The Music Matters series, curated by one of our volunteers, focuses on a different musical artist each month and provides patrons with reference points to books and audio visual items of the noted artist. Artists have ranged from Aretha Franklin to Willie Nelson and this series has been a crowd favorite enjoyed by patrons of all ages.

Rounding out all of the new and exciting volunteer programs here at Helen Hall is our scholastic tutoring program. Since its debut in June, this program has been well received and supported. Thanks to the wonderful support of our staff and volunteers, we have been able to create an ideal learning environment and provide resources to those between the ages of six and eighteen years of age. Students can come to the library on the first Tuesday of every month and receive help on a variety of subjects. What makes this program so interesting is the background of some of our tutors. We have everyone from current students to astronauts, engineers, teachers, and even business owners.
How One Student Spent His Summer Exploring Galveston’s History

While most college students are off from school celebrating their summer breaks, some students choose to seek out internships to give them practical work experience within their chosen fields of study. A few months before the end of the spring semester, advisors at Texas A&M Galveston mentioned the Rosenberg Library as an option for internships to Museum Studies and Anthropology minors. When I heard this, my first thought was, “what in the world would I do at the Rosenberg?” The answer was certainly not what I expected.

After applying, interviewing, and meeting the qualifications for the Special Collections Department, I was quickly integrated and given tasks that not only matched my interests, but also my academic discipline. The permanent staff was welcoming and patient in detailing the projects that would be assigned to me over my 10-week duration. The largest project I was given was the cataloging of The Galveston Daily News photography archives. With this task, I had the privilege of documenting and often researching original photographs of Galveston Island’s rich history; images that ranged from original shots of Seawall Boulevard to famous island visitors such as Ray Charles and George W. Bush. Additionally, I was able to explore original World War I propaganda posters, personal World War II photographs, and handled historical items that, up until now, I would have only viewed in a glass case.

Overall, volunteering here has afforded me the immense pleasure of seeing first-hand what archivists do on a daily basis as well as valuable experience in a cohesive and professional work environment. If you haven’t visited or are interested in volunteering at the Rosenberg Library, I highly recommend you drop in and see the Special Collections Department on the fourth floor. The staff is always extremely helpful, courteous, and competently cares for a true gem of this community and our great state. I’d like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Lauren, Sean, Kevin, and Casey for making me feel welcome and a part of the team. Thank you all and Gig ‘Em!

Story contributed by John Vandewater, Texas A&M Galveston student and volunteer at the Galveston and Texas History Center during the summer of 2019.

Helen Hall Library’s Thursday Talks: Jerry Woodfill

Former Apollo 11 and 13 Spacecraft Warning System Engineer Jerry Woodfill presented at Helen Hall Library’s June Thursday Talks program as part of our adult Summer Reading Program. As the Apollo program’s spacecraft warning system engineer, Jerry discovered a master alarm that would have aborted the Apollo 11 moon walk shortly after it had begun. Had this nuisance not been discovered, the early moon-walk termination would have been a catastrophic ending when it came to conducting planned lunar surface experiments.


Rosenberg Library Phase VII Project Progress
English Conversation Practice Class

The English Conversation Practice class, which started in the spring of 2018, has been welcomed by the international community served by Helen Hall Library in League City. Students with all different levels of spoken English have come to practice their conversation skills. A variety of countries are represented, as well: China, Korea, the Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Japan, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Jordan, Egypt, Bolivia, Mexico, Venezuela, Chile and more. The opportunity to not only improve English conversation skills but also learn more about each other’s cultures has been invaluable for both the teacher and students alike.

In December of 2018, there was a holiday party where class members brought a dish that was popular in their home country, and they played games and exchanged gifts. This program was such a success that plans are to repeat the event and continue it on as a tradition.

The English Conversation Practice class takes place every Monday night at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. There is no need to register beforehand, and students can join the class at any point. All English skill levels are welcome. The library looks forward to more students coming and joining us!

Adult Summer Reading Program at Helen Hall Library

The 2019 Summer Reading Program theme was Universe of Stories. Helen Hall Library had an overall total of 239 entries, 134 participants, 205 League City residents, and 34 non-League City residents that participated in our 2019 adults’ reading program.

- **June 2019 Adult Summer Reading**: 170 Entries, 92 Participants, 151 LC Residents, 19 Non-LC Residents
- **July 2019 Adult Summer Reading**: 69 Entries, 42 Participants, 54 LC Residents, 15 Non-LC Residents
Children’s Services Outreach Initiative

This past summer, Helen Hall Library went outside the library’s walls to reach members of the League City community. By performing story times, attending professional development opportunities, and visiting schools, Helen Hall Library reached over 500 community members.

Story Times were performed at Chick-Fil-A, the YMCA, and Abundant Life Christian School. Children could sing songs and dance and were read a story by librarians.

Professional development opportunities were attended at the CCISD Setting the Trend where Helen Hall Library had opportunities to talk about programming, answer questions about library policies, sign up new patrons with MobileCirc, and reach out to librarians in the public school system.

Summer Story Times

This past summer, Helen Hall Library had many great activities for children that included a space theme, since this was the 50th anniversary of Men on the Moon. This included Story Time as well, where we read many books about planets, stars, space, and astronauts.

Stories can help children develop social, communication, and early literacy skills. By attending story times, children are able to develop a recognition of sounds, words, and language.

Story time improves listening skills, keeps children engaged, and enthusiastic about reading.

More importantly, stories affect the brain. Listening to a story activates the auditory cortex of the brain. Storytelling is important because it connects information to emotions.

STEAM for Tweens

At Helen Hall Library in League City, our goal with STEAM for Tweens is to spark interest and develop curiosity within the STEAM principles (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math). We work toward this goal by offering a variety of programs such as Fun with Snap Circuits, Sweet Science by Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and DIY Lava Lamp. During these programs, participants worked with electricity, learned about the effects of liquid nitrogen, and experimented with chemistry and density while building their own lava lamps.

This year, STEAM for Tweens has hosted 7 programs with over 100 attendees. Programs are for children ages 8 – 11 and are the last Wednesday of the month from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. For more information, contact Helen Hall Library at (281) 554-1111.

Right: DIY Lava Lamp, March 2019
We’ve had so many new and exciting teen programs at Helen Hall Library! In March, we hosted our very first Super Smash Bros.™ Ultimate Tournament. Teens registered ahead of time to be added to the tournament bracket and then battled it out against each other. Bedrock City Comic Co. in Clear Lake generously donated awesome prizes for the first, second, and third place winners. There was a total of 38 participants, and it was requested that the tournament become an annual event.

Our summer programs were out of this world! Of course, there was our Teen Summer Reading Program. 295 teens were interested in the program and picked up the first reading log, and 150 of those teens successfully participated. We had four reading logs that teens could complete, and the prizes were “A Universe of Stories” swag bags, deep space ducks, galaxy slime, and gift certificates donated by Half Price Books. This year, we also offered a grand prize of two Space Center Houston tickets donated by Space Center Houston. Teens who completed all four reading logs were entered into a raffle for a chance to win the grand prize.

In addition to our regular programming, we offered several special events during the summer. Teens joined us for Cosmic Crafternoon where they created Galaxy in a Jar and Space Rocks. There’s not always enough time to watch an entire anime series in Teen Anime Club, but anime fanatics were able to catch up on select shows at Black Hole Binge. We hosted another Teen Late Night event where teens could experience the library after hours. This edition, Humans vs. Aliens, was an interstellar twist on the themed game of tag, Humans vs. Zombies. Lastly, teens got their glow on at our Galaxy Glow Party where they decked themselves out with glow makeup, glow sticks, and glow necklaces and played Just Dance under black lights.

For years we’ve had our Teen Advisory Board, Teen Anime Club, and Game On programs. We now have a new addition to our regular programming: Teen Writers Club! New teens who had been members of our Tween Writers Club requested a teen version. With our Teen Advisory Board’s approval, we started offering it in the summer. Teens came together to write, share, and support each other through the creative writing process, and Teen Writers Club can now be anticipated every semester.
The Library’s Facilities Needs Assessment and Master Plan is a process whereby professional consultants analyze the library and the community in order to formulate recommendations for comprehensive library facilities from present-day through 2040, which is the year League City is expected to reach build-out, with all available land developed.

Over 500 people participated in the Needs Assessment process via interviews, surveys, and community meetings throughout FYT2019.

Consultants Maureen Arndt and Paul Bonnette made a preliminary presentation to the Library Board on September 17 and will make their final presentation to City Council on October 22 at 5:00 pm.

**New Library Services For All**

As a part of our 2015 strategic planning goals, Helen Hall Library in League City now utilizes the Springshare Suite for libraries. With Springshare, we are able to create information, subject, and topic guides, forms, surveys, and tutorials for our patrons, utilize the calendars and appointment booking feature, and answer chat reference questions for patrons. Patrons are also able to browse our FAQs, search our knowledge-base for answers, and submit a ticket for assistance with anything ranging from device help to reference help.

**Computer Classes at Helen Hall Library**

Helen Hall Library started its computer classes for Fall 2019. The computer classes are held on Wednesdays from 10-12 p.m. In September, we had a total of 33 participants who attended these computer classes. We had 12 people who attended the Windows 10 class on September 11.

We also offer 30 minutes to an hour of one-on-one sessions for those who are able to make it to the classes. There were a total of 3 people who took advantage of this service in September. The one-on-one sessions are limited to basic computer skills.

The Fall 2019 computer class schedule can be found at [https://helenhall.libguides.com/classes](https://helenhall.libguides.com/classes).

For more information about the computer classes or one-on-one sessions, please contact Helen Hall Library in League City at (281) 554-1101.
One Galveston Location – Multiple 1900 Storm Victims

The Rosenberg Library’s Galveston and Texas History Center owns hundreds of residential photographs taken after the 1900 Storm. The streets where many images were taken are known, making it possible to correlate the images with the addresses of nearby residents who died in the hurricane.

The accompanying image shows a pathway between debris near Avenue L and 15th Street (Galveston Ward 11). Wrecked houses are visible in the background. The following hurricane victims lived in the vicinity of the image:

Charlotte Mestre ("Mestry" in victim lists), age 45, was black. She was born in New Providence in the Bahamas in March 1855. Charlotte lived with her son and a boarder at 1502 Avenue K and worked as a housekeeper.

August Zink ("Zenke"), 10 years old, lived with his family at 1415 Avenue L. The household included his mother, Johanna Grundman, three brothers and four sisters.

Roy Kelso resided at 1419 Avenue K with his parents and siblings. He was born December 1897 in Texas, the son of James Kelso, a road and bridge foreman, and his wife Maggie.

August Wisrodt (listed as "Hesrodt") and his family were reported as victims but survived the 1900 Storm. August, a merchant, was born in Texas in January 1872. He resided at 1423 Avenue L with Lilly, his wife of nine years, and their two sons. The 1910 Galveston County census enumerated them as still living in Ward 11.

The Rosenberg Library has compiled a database of approximately 5,000 names of people who were reported to be 1900 Storm victims. The database will eventually be made available to the general public through the Galveston and Texas History Center’s website. For more information, contact the Galveston and Texas History Center at the Rosenberg Library by calling (409) 763-8854, ext. 126.

Casey Edward Greene
Rosenberg Scholar

The History Club

The League City Historical Society and Helen Hall Library teamed up to present The History Club. The History Club meets on the last Thursday of the month from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. in the Library Theater. One speaker per month discusses local history, Texas history, or American history topics that cover a wide range of interests. For the spring and summer of 2019, over one hundred people enjoyed learning about such matters as Texas dance hall preservation, the first African American World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, the history of The Settlement in Texas City, the story of the abandoned town of Virginia point, and the success of the Apollo Mission Control Restoration Project.
An interview with La Marque Public Library’s new Youth Services Librarian, Tabitha Henderson:

Where did you last work?
The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas.

What are three words that describe you?
Friendly, determined, & creative.

What’s your favorite school subject?
It was always English and History.

Do you do community service?
Yes, I like to do cleanups. The town I grew up in did swamp cleanups and I always enjoyed participating in those. I also like to volunteer at animal shelters.

What are your favorite books?
I have so many but if I have to choose these are at the top of my list: The Infernal Devices series by Cassandra Clare, Harry Potter series, Avalon High by Meg Cabot, Austenland by Shannon Hale, Prophecy of the Stones by Flavia Bujor, and Time Traveler’s Wife by Audrey Niffenegger. As you probably can guess, I love to read romance and fantasy!

What made you decide to be a librarian?
At first, I wanted to be a librarian because I loved books and because the library was one of my favorite places growing up. But after going to school, it is because of the opportunities you can give communities and creating spaces for people to be themselves. As the Youth Services Librarian, I want to create opportunities for teens and children to learn and have fun in a productive way.

Welcome to La Marque, Tabitha!

Creating New Experiences at Dickinson Public Library

Dickinson Public Library hosted the Japan America Society of Houston this summer. Patrons learned about Shodo, a traditional Japanese calligraphy art form. Patrons were shown how to do the lettering, and then practiced and prepared their own piece of art to take home. The Japan America Society of Houston does many different types of outreach opportunities in the area and we will be partnering again in the fall for another cultural experience.
Moore Memorial Public Library’s Children’s Department Out in the Community

Closing the library for renovation has not stopped us from telling stories and serving our community. The children’s department staff continues to provide toddler and preschool storytimes at the Nessler Center. Dates, times and locations for these programs are posted on the library website and Facebook page. We also go out to do story times for different organizations such as the GCCAC Head Start Mall of the Mainland and the Nessler Preschool. Our librarians hope to offer storytelling and book talks, as well as other activities in our local schools soon.

Even though the library is closed, you might spot us out and about at local events in Texas City. During the summer, our librarians told Dr. Seuss stories at the United Way Reading Camp. In August, we handed out library goodie bags at the Lost and Found Ministries “We Have Your Back” backpack and school supply giveaway. In October, we are looking forward to seeing people stop by our table at the Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday the 26th. The following week, look for us during Hallowapalooza. We’re handing out candy and goodies at the Trunk or Treat and doing fun crafts and games inside. In December, we are excited about participating in the Christmas parade again!

Moore Memorial Public Library Partnering with TCISD Librarians

On August 23rd, our team was invited to meet with fantastic librarians from Texas City Independent School District for their convocation. In this meeting, we explored various ways to further develop a deeper partnership between our two organizations. Since we are currently closed for renovation, a few of our staff have had the opportunity to assist as Library Aides at La Marque Primary and La Marque Elementary schools. La Marque Primary School started this school year in a new space and our staff has been able to work on organizing, shelving, and processing the whole collection. In the coming months, continuing after our reopening, we will be visiting many of the other TCISD schools for Storytimes, Book Talks, Library Literacy instruction, and much more!
Mae S. Bruce Library

ASRT National Library Partnership Grant

Each year the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) provides grants to libraries across the country for access to books that highlight the vital work of the radiological profession, from children’s books to autobiographies. The Mae Bruce Library recently received one of these grants.

The ASRT National Library Partnership grant funds will be used for the purchase of books on medical imaging and radiation therapy. The program is part of ASRT’s ongoing commitment to educate the public about radiologic technologists’ role on health care teams, patient safety measures and the science behind radiological procedures.

The library will host a book display in early November during National Radiologic Technology Week, and share display pictures and program information on its social media and website platforms. ASRT members firmly believe that collaborating with public libraries provides an opportunity to reach a wide range of readers from senior citizens to school-aged children. The Mae Bruce Library is thankful to the ASRT for the opportunity to participate in this important endeavor.

In addition to applying for the ASRT grant, library staff has been busy with the summer’s space themed annual Summer Reading Program (SRP); encouraging new voters and citizens who recently moved to the area to register to vote on National Voter Registration Day on September 24th; celebrating 50 years of Sesame Street; training for the nation’s upcoming 2020 Decennial Census; hosting the annual Daughters of the American Revolution exhibit; highlighting National Hispanic Heritage Month; and partnering with Keep Santa Fe Beautiful (KSFB) to collect non-recyclable grocery bags for its ‘Bags for Beds’ recycling project for the homeless.
Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing. Left: Mr. Earl Shinpaugh, who was part of the 1969 Apollo 11 Mission Control team!

Above: Orbit from the Houston Astros ...so many books to read!

Above: Oscar reads to the kids.

Above: Having fun at Journal Club!
Dickinson Public Library participated in the Dickinson Education Foundation’s, “Back to School Convocation and Vendor Resource Fair”. This program was set up for Dickinson ISD teachers to provide them with information, resources and fun activities. The library was able to issue library cards and provide programming information to all the teachers.

Teen Services at Dickinson Public Library

This fall, we are continuing our Teen Study Hall program where area teens can come to the library every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. to use the laptops and print school materials at no cost. We are also beginning our Coding Club at the library this fall. The coding club will be a weekly program where the patron goes at their own pace in learning how to create apps, websites, and video games. We are also launching our Teen Advisory Group (TAG) this fall to better provide teen programming to our community’s youth.
There was a “Universe” of fun going on this summer at the Dickinson Public Library! Here are some highlights of what the library was up to this summer!

The Dickinson Public Library celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Lunar Moon Landing with fun activities, moon related snacks, and a live stream of the moon landing. It was a great opportunity for the library to share the anniversary of this historical event.
The theme for the 2019 Summer Reading Program was *A Universe of Stories*. Helen Hall Library provided out-of-this-world programming that brought children one-of-a-kind experiences. Captain Scott Tingle, a current NASA astronaut, visited the library and spoke to the children in two sessions. He showed children first-hand footage of his experience in space and provided every child with an autographed photo. Space Center Houston brought in a travelling planetarium, also called a Star Lab, where children learned about the solar system, the life cycle of stars, and what it is like to live in space. Children learned about pressure and launched rockets behind the library, and they got to taste real astronaut food.

Children had an opportunity to meet astronaut Captain Scott Tingle at Helen Hall Library this summer. Captain Tingle provided a description of what it’s like to live in space.