

BETWEEN THE PAGES

Huntsville Public Library Monthly Newsletter



CONGRATS READER!

BY RACHEL MCPHAIL, CITY LIBRARIAN

Mary Elise is another young reader to have finished the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten literacy initiative at the Huntsville Public Library with the help of her family. Three-year-old Mary Elise especially loved reading *Fancy Nancy* and *Pinkalicious* books for the program. Her mother Amanda added that Mary Elise was so fond of the family's copy of "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" that the binding fell apart, though the book had also been previously lovingly used by Mary Elise's siblings. Mary Elise was so sad by the book's falling apart that Amanda bought a new copy of it for her.

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 myhuntsvillelibrary.com

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Monday-Friday Saturday
10am-7pm 12pm-4pm

Amanda logged Mary Elise's first book for this program in August 2019 and set a goal to finish in one year. The family had enjoyed participating in the library's Summer Reading Program over the previous summer, and Amanda felt that she could keep the reading momentum going with her children. Once Mary Elise saw her name on the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten bulletin board in the library, she felt special and enjoyed looking at her name on the board and tracking her progress every time she came to the library.

The goal of this literacy initiative is to help parents and caregivers form the habit of daily or weekly reading with their young children. As part of her experience with this program, Amanda realized that initially she had read to her older kids faithfully at bedtime to the point that she had likely read 1000 books to them. As her older children started to grow up and read on their own, Amanda found the habit of reading together faded through busy schedules and a rough pregnancy.
(continued on page. 4)



BE AWARE!

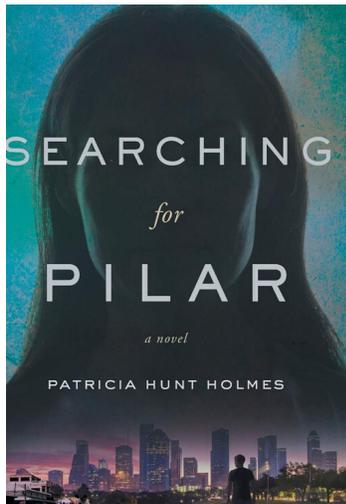
BY MARY KOKOT, ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Human trafficking is a crime that forcefully exploits women, men, and children. This can include forced labor, marriage, prostitution, and organ removal. United Against Human Trafficking (UAHT) will present an informative session that will address this issue on May 18, 2020 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Public Library's Staggs Community Room.

At any given time, there are 234,000 victims of labor trafficking in Texas. There are 79,000 victims of youth and minor sex trafficking in Texas at any given time. Learn more about the growing problem of human trafficking and how to help and identify victims. Register at myhuntsvillelibrary.com or call 936-291-5471 for further information.

Read more...

Searching for Pilar is a new book in the library that tells the story of Pilar, a young wife and mother from Mexico, who was kidnapped and forced into sex slavery in Houston.



Written by local author and attorney, Patricia Hunt Holmes, the story of Pilar is not unlike thousands of other innocent, young girls who are exploited and trafficked in this way.

Luckily, Pilar has a strong faith and inner strength plus a family who never gives up searching for her. This well-written story not only educates but also entertains with plenty of action and a moving portrayal of Pilar.



WHERE'S THE BEEF: WHO DO YOU TRUST?

BY RICHARD LANE, REFERENCE

Family historians are, by and large, methodical folks. We understand the need for documentation and presentation of evidence. Still, sometimes we'd like to have a short cut, an easy way out. Everyone wants a silver bullet that will remedy our ills. It's just human nature.

Google and other search engines seemingly make it easy to enter a name and, on a hope and prayer, find eight generations of lineage, perfectly aligned. Reality has a way of confounding our most ardent wishes. It just ain't so.

Google searches can produce starting points and sometimes some good "stuff". More often than not, Google searches lack the documentary evidence to support a conclusion. Do you remember the Wendy's television commercial from years back? A little old lady, obviously a little perturbed, asked, "Where's the beef?" Family historians need to ask a similar question, "Where's the proof?"

Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Heritage Quest and similar genealogical databases have a distinct advantage over search engines. They tell us where the beef is. Databases show the source of the information. The sources can be cited and presented as evidence for lineage society applications and for properly developed family histories.

Google searching can be productive, but citing an unknown source found online is risky and unacceptable evidence. Genealogists and family historians must be vigilant to evidence and methodology. There are no shortcuts.





FINGER PAINTING



YUCK GAME SHOW



THANK YOU!

The Huntsville Public Library would like to thank the Friends of the Library for sponsoring the Yuck Game Show on March 11, 2020. This program featured slime, explosions and some much more..

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING



(continued from pg. 1) Amanda found out about the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Huntsville Public Library and read the stories on the library's website about other children who had finished the program. Inspired by the stories and wanting to rekindle the habit of reading with her children, Amanda started the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program with Mary Elise. After finishing the program, she estimated that they read on average 50 books per week.

Mary Elise was very excited to find out that she and Amanda had finished the program. For Amanda, the program was not as hard as she thought it would be, especially once she developed a routine of taking pictures of the books as soon as she finished them. Then she would log the books on the library's website when she had the time. Amanda stated, "I didn't really have to go out of my way or think about it much at all. I've loved the opportunity it's given me to spend more time with my younger kids, and I'm looking forward to doing it with my youngest daughter now."

Hooray for another family of readers!



THANK YOU!

The Huntsville Public Library would like to thank the Huntsville Audubon Society for sponsoring the "Its a Jungle out There!" program on March 10, 2020. This program featured live birds and animals from the rainforest.

BUILDING A LIBRARY COMMUNITY: ONLINE AND IN-PERSON

BY JENNIFER ADAMS,
IT COORDINATOR



Huntsville Public Library has been putting in new, exciting efforts to continue achieving our mission statement: ***Transforming Lives, Enriching Families, Building Community.*** Today, more than ever, the connections we make in the digital realm are just as important as those in the physical.

As community members go and branch out into the world through internet connections, the library must do so as well.

We want to find new ways to connect with our patrons and their lives each day. Our goals are to help provide the best possible experience for every member of our community. With new initiatives rolling out in the coming months, we need feedback from patrons and community members to help us reach beyond what we have done in the past.

One way is to have a larger presence online and offer new options. We have been making efforts to be more interactive and open to our community members online and in person through social media, but also through GABBIE, our virtual librarian all patrons can access through text, and this newsletter itself.

As we strive to find ways to grow as a library and as a community, we need to hear from our target audience - the vital community of Huntsville - your thoughts and wishes you have about the Huntsville Public Library.

So Huntsville, we are putting out a request to you today: talk to us, tell us what we are doing that is great and maybe what's not so great, and tell us what you want from your library. You can message us on social media, text us on GABBIE, and take part in one of our surveys or polls. We need and want your feedback on how to be better - so let us know.

Be sure to always check your number one source for information: www.MyHuntsvilleLibrary.com. Your interaction and feedback will help us make the Huntsville Public Library better for all of our community members.

