

Live Chat with HPL staff

See Page 2

HUNTSVILLE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3

BETWEEN THE PAGES

MARCH 2017

SPRING BREAK AT HPL

The Huntsville Public Library has an exciting week planned for families who have the week of Spring Break off to relax and regroup. Huntsville ISD's spring break will fall on the week of March 12th through 18th and the library is ready!

On Monday, March 13th, the Houston Audubon will be bringing live owls for an exciting and informative program called 'Silent Hunters' which will begin at 2 p.m.

"We wanted to start the Monday of Spring Break with an exciting program and the Huntsville Audubon Society came to us with a wonderful idea," Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail says.

Sign-up is not required for the event but a large audience is expected.

The Huntsville Audubon Society will be sponsoring the event. Sharyn Pezant of the Huntsville Audubon Society said she chose this particular event because she believes "most individuals are fascinated by owls especially since the owls spend their nights hunting for their prey and raising their families. Because of their active night activity, many of us are not afforded an opportunity to witness them visually. Besides being beautiful birds (take the snowy owl for example) there are many interesting and captivating facts about owls."

For bird enthusiasts of all ages, Pezant recommends attending the program at the library as well as several Internet resources such as the National Geographic Wildlife Wonders Owl

Silent Hunters videos on YouTube. Pezant also encourages interested persons to consider joining the Huntsville Audubon Society. Children can enjoy Junior Audubon Programs which will be held at the Huntsville Public Library in the summer. Adults can attend month Huntsville Audubon meetings to enjoy presentations on birds and nature. For more information, visit huntsvilleaudubon.org.

The Tuesday of Spring Break will be exciting as well as the Houston Museum of Natural Science will be presenting a thrilling program entitled 'Exploring Energy.' Participants will be able to explore energy transformations with electricity, sounds, and light.

Continued on page 2

HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1219 13th Street
Huntsville, TX 77340
936-291-5472

www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com
@HuntsvilleLib—Twitter
HuntsvillePublicLibrary—FB
Huntsville_Public_Lib—Instagram

Monday through Friday
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturdays Noon to 4 p.m.
Closed Sunday

Donation made by H'ville Book Club

"With the generous donation from the Huntsville Book Review Club, the library will be able to purchase additional resources, both print and electronic, for use by our patrons. It is because of donations like this that the Huntsville Public Library is able to provide relevant materials to our public. We couldn't be more grateful." - Assistant City Librarian Anne-Frances Sparks



Pictured left to right are: Historian Geneva Tyler, Treasurer Phyllis Hurst, Secretary Pat Allen, Vice President Juanita Grounds, HPL Asst. City Librarian Anne Sparks and President Carolyn Kanewske.

Live Chat!

HPL engaging patrons through Live Chat online

The Huntsville Public Library is always coming up with new ways to engage with our community. This go around, we have create a new form of communication between the library staff and our patrons. When a problem or question arises about anything, patrons can hop onto the new live chat feature and ask away!

There are no right or wrong questions, problems, or concerns to ask the library staff. Do not hesitate to ask! The live chat can be located on the myhuntsvillelibrary.com homepage in the bottom right-hand corner. The chat is highlighted in red. All you have to do is click the live chat and start the conversation! Someone on the library staff will happily help you with your general questions or problems. We cannot an-



swer any questions concerning a patron's library account, but you can call or stop by the front desk to get some information on renewals, books, fines, etc.

Smartsupp is a free, live chat including real-time with visitors and answering chats from your smartphone. The live chat can be used from the Huntsville Public Library computer lab, on your tablet, personal home computer, or even your mobile device! When the chat is offline, you send a message and

someone will get back to you at their earliest convenience. When you are online, no name or email is required; just start typing your message and someone will be able to assist you immediately. To send your message, you can either hit the <enter> key or simply click send with the mouse. This live chat is helpful and efficient. The library staff will answer quickly and to the best of their abilities. Have fun chatting!

- Ashley Newsome,
Tech Coordinator

Continued from page 1

"This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Huntsville Public Library and we are very grateful for their support," says McPhail, "Sign-up isn't required but like the owl program, we are expecting large turnout."

This event will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 14th.

Story Time will be held on Wednesday March 15th and Friday, March 17th at 10:45 a.m. The Mother Goose Lapsit will also occur at its usual time of 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 13th.

The second annual Teddy Bear Tea Party will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 16th.

"We have chosen a Parisian theme for this year's tea party and we have had a lot of fun brainstorming ideas

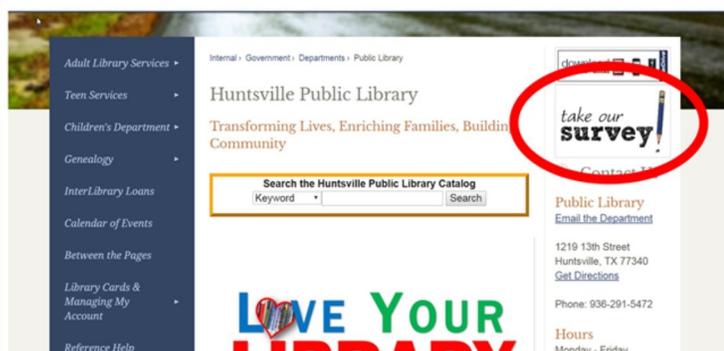
and planning the event," says McPhail.

Online Registration is required and can be found at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com. Attendees are invited to bring their favorite stuffed animal to enjoy games, crafts, and tea-time goodies. To wrap up Spring Break, the library will also hold a craft day at 3 p.m. Friday, March 17th. Sign-up is not required and attendees are invited to bring a friend to craft with.

So whether you like nature, science, crafts, or tea parties or if you just want to come to the library to check out a week's worth of books, the Huntsville Public Library encourages everyone to enjoy Spring Break at the Library.

- Rachel McPhail,
Children's Librarian

We have a few questions!



Please log on to our website and complete our online survey today!

www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com



Calling all retired teachers, college students, and those of you with extra time on your hands! The library has an active adult literacy program which assists students in many areas. Our newest tutors,

Betty Barrett and Kendra Eden, are helping students from Cambodia and Brazil to learn English as a Second Language (ESL). Others, such as Bernard Mesa, help students with math prep for the GED. Tutor Holly Ortiz is helping her student review for the Naturalization Test. (Update: she passed!) A successful literacy program depends on community volunteers who are able to give at least two hours of their time per week. Please give to YOUR library today!

Kids get it too

Kids are inquisitive. They want to explore their environment and often have a thousand questions to be answered in non-stop succession. As parents, grandparents, family members and friends we are well advised to foster their curiosity.

Educators and education researchers tell us that curiosity and academic success go hand-in-hand. Our challenge is to be patient and encourage exploration and research. We may not be an expert in a field of study, but a trip to the library or museum offers an opportunity to engage children in learning activities. Field trips and hikes offer children an opportunity to explore their environment and exercise their bodies and minds.

Academic success, as important as it is, is only a part of human development. A study conducted by Emory University and



published in the *Journal of Family Life* suggests that “children who know stories about relatives who came before them show higher levels of emotional well-being.” The article also concludes “teens who know more stories about their extended family show higher levels of emotional well-being and

Genealogy



higher levels of identity achievement.”

Family history activities foster well-being and educational achievement. Fortunately, there are a number of excellent online genealogical exercises suitable for family activities. Search genealogy and kids for materials and lesson plans. Here are two excellent online addresses: <http://kids.familytreemagazine.com/kids> and <http://thegenalogykids.blogspot.com>.

The library staff and members of the Walker County Genealogical Society will present family history programs for children and teens next fall.

Meanwhile, talk with children and teens about family stories. Sit down dinners are excellent times to share stories, photographs and conversation.

Kids get it. They just need a little encouragement.

- **Richard Lane,**
Reference & Genealogy

Genealogy events

Frances Sprott Goforth Memorial Genealogy Weekend

The Frances Sprott Goforth Memorial Genealogy Weekend will be held Aug. 4 & 5, 2017 at the Huntsville Public Library. This year's event, "One-half of our Ancestors are Women: Finding our Female Ancestors" is hosted by the Huntsville Public Library and the Walker County Genealogical Society. The weekend will run from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, with a light supper being provided during the lock-in. The weekend continues from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5. The event is free but requires registration. Call 936-291-5471 or sign up online @ www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com. Admission is free. A silent auction will be held during the weekend and is open to the public. The auction will end at 4 p.m. Saturday.

FRANCES SPROTT GOFORTH MEMORIAL GENEALOGY WEEKEND

August 4 & 5, 2017

"FINDING OUR FEMALE ANCESTORS"

Presented by the Walker County
Genealogical Society
& Huntsville Public Library

On-site
registration
opens at
8:30 AM

Friday, Aug. 4th – 9 AM to 8 PM
Lock-in with light supper provided
Saturday, Aug. 5th – 9 AM to 4 PM
Silent Auction Ends

Register online at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com or
call (936)291-5471 for more information.

Listing of Events

Find this information online at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com

Do you have children ages 2 or under? Then Mother Goose Lapsit is a story time designed for you! Held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m., enjoy a half hour of developmentally appropriate play featuring stories, songs, and rhymes. This program introduces little ones to the story time experience and is perfect for their language development and developing vocabulary. Sign-up is not required. March dates are March 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th.

Come to Story Time – a fun early literacy program for kids 5 and under. Join us for interactive stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts. The early literacy practices featured each week help build the foundation for a lifelong love of reading and learning. For parents and caregivers, story time offers an opportunity to experience early literacy practices in action, discover great books and resources for home use, and socialize with other parents after Story time. Wednesday and Friday sessions share a theme with something new each week. Sign-up is not required. Story times are held on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:45 a.m. March dates are as follows: March 8th, 10th, 15th, 17th, 22nd, 24th, 29th, and 31st.

The deadline to submit Artwork for the Friends of the Huntsville Public Library Annual Art Contest is 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 1st. Winners will be formally announced and presented with a certificate at the Artwork Unveiling Ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 11th.

Is your child interested in the world of technology? Learn to 3-D Print with him or her in a 2-day class at the Huntsville Public Library. This class will be held from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. on two weeknights. Class size is limited to five students aged 7 through 15 and a parent must attend the program. At the end of each session, students will be able to take home their 3-D printed object. Multiple sessions scheduled: March 20th and 22nd as well as March 27th and 29th. Registration is required and participants will need to bring their own USB drive. To sign up, visit the library's website at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com.

Comic Book Club is returning to the Huntsville Public Library. Enjoy games, crafts, raffles, and a speaker from the world of Comic Books. Bring a comic book to trade with. This program is sponsored by Annette Tubbs and the Comic Book Stop and Trade group. March's session will take place from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 25th.



Huntsville Public Library is pleased to host the Walker County Master Gardeners "Spring Vegetable Gardening" from 10:30 a.m. to

noon Tuesday, March 7th in the Community Room. The Master Gardeners will discuss weed control and insect management with an emphasis on tomato varieties well-suited to our area that are proven winners. Register online for this free workshop. Door prizes will be awarded. Contact Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator, at 936-291-5471 for additional information.

The ever-popular, free Spanish classes have returned to the Huntsville Public Library. Instructor Beth Williamson is teaching Beginning and Advanced classes on Wednesdays in the Community Room. The 15-week program began Feb. 1, 2017 and will continue until May 10. Please call 936-291-5471 for additional information.

The Brown Bag Lecture Series will continue at Huntsville Public Library. Attendees may bring a brown bag lunch. Lunch time begins at 11:30 a.m. and the lecture will begin at noon. Alan Byboth, Manager of the Center for Biological Field Studies at SHSU, will speak about wildflowers found in the Huntsville area. The lecture series is planned for the fourth Thursday of each month. Beverages will be provided. Admission is free. Please call 936-291-5471 for additional information.

The Huntsville Public Library, in conjunction with the Sam Houston State University (SHSU) Law, Engagement, and Politics (LEAP) Center, will present a free five-week Citizenship Preparation Course. The class will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays beginning March 28th through April 25th in the Community Room. The course is designed to prepare immigrants for the U. S. Naturalization Test and will cover the application process, oral interview, and exam. All necessary materials will be provided. The classes are taught by Mike Yawn, Political Science Professor at SHSU. Space is limited and registration is required, so sign up at the library early. Register for the course at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com or call 936-291-5471.

*Please check online calendar
for all dates.*