



Courtesy photo

Information gatherers

Christi Whittington, the Kingwood Library's branch manager, along with members from the Friends of the Library Kingwood recently visited the Barbara Bush Library to gather information that will be helpful as the plans for the new library in Kingwood move forward. A fall groundbreaking is rumored. Pictured, from left, are Connie Jaeger, FOLK's special projects chairperson; Annette Main, Barbara Bush's assistant branch librarian; Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK's president, Whittington; and Nancy Agafieti, branch manager of the Barbara Bush Library.

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KINGWOOD LIBRARY

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FOLK

Friends Of the Library Kingwood's (FOLK's) next used book sale is Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Kingwood Library from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. A perfect time to do some 'early' shopping for those bookworms on your holiday shopping list. Book, magazine, and other donations are accepted (all year round) during business hours of the library. All donations are tax deductible.

FOLK

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ADULT LITERACY

Atascocita, Kingwood and Octavia Fields branch libraries are seeking volunteer adult literacy tutors to help adults gain reading and writing skills necessary for succeeding in their work, reading to their children, and personal enrichment. The library provides materials with detailed lessons that can be customized to a student's particular need. A free training workshop will take place on Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Aldine Branch Library. After the workshop, tutors can meet with students at the Octavia Fields Branch Library. For more information or to register for this workshop, please call 713-749-9035.

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PRESCHOOL CRAFTS

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"Let's Book" with the 85th annual Children's Book Week

The theme for the 85th annual observance of Children's Book Week is Let's Book. Building upon the energy and fun of this theme, Children's Book Week introduces young people to new authors and new ideas through sharing books. Since 1919, educators, librarians, booksellers, and families have observed Children's Book Week during the week before Thanksgiving. From Nov. 15 to 21, parties, story times, author visits, and other literacy activities will take place throughout our community.

Governors around the country are proclaiming Nov. 15-21 Children's Book Week in their states, including Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Washington, and

Wisconsin. In many local communities, mayors are also making official declarations for Children's Book Week.

During Children's Book Week, children's books and the love of reading are celebrated through storytelling, parties, author and illustrator appearances, and other book-related events. Parents and caregivers should call their local children's booksellers and librarians for more details. Many local community service organizations also organize events, so please check the community events calendar to see what's going on around town. You should also visit the Children's Book Council Web site at www.cbcbooks.org for more information about Children's Book Week, including a listing of author and illustrator appearances near you.

The Children's Book Council, the official national sponsor of Children's Book Week, encourages parents and caregivers to join in the celebration. Take your children to the library or to the bookstore. Read together after school and before bedtime. Act out a favorite story together. Have a Children's Book Week party for friends and family. There are many ways to celebrate children's books and reading, so this year, join the party... Let's Book.

KW observer

10/20/04

This fall, fall into a good book

By MICHELLE BROUSSARD
Observer Reporter

Looking for a good book? Ever wonder what others are reading? Faculty members at Kingwood College have pooled their favorite reads and put them on display at the college library.

The exhibit, entitled "Fall Into a Good Book," features literary works from a plethora of genres and offers readers an opportunity to test new waters. From science fiction to politics, college staff members reveal a personal side by sharing their preferences for leisure reading.

"We want to encourage students to read more," explained reference librarian Charles Gillis. He said that in knowing the majority of college campus faculty members inherently read more, putting this exhibit together was a natural decision for increasing readership.

Gillis explained that mystery novels are a favorite of leisure readers; however, since having the exhibit on display, those books which have been recommended are consistently checked out.

"It's been very successful," said Gillis. "We'll probably do this again next year."

"Oath of Swords," by David Weber, was recommended by Suanna Davis. Davis is an English instructor and applauds this fantasy novel for its believability.

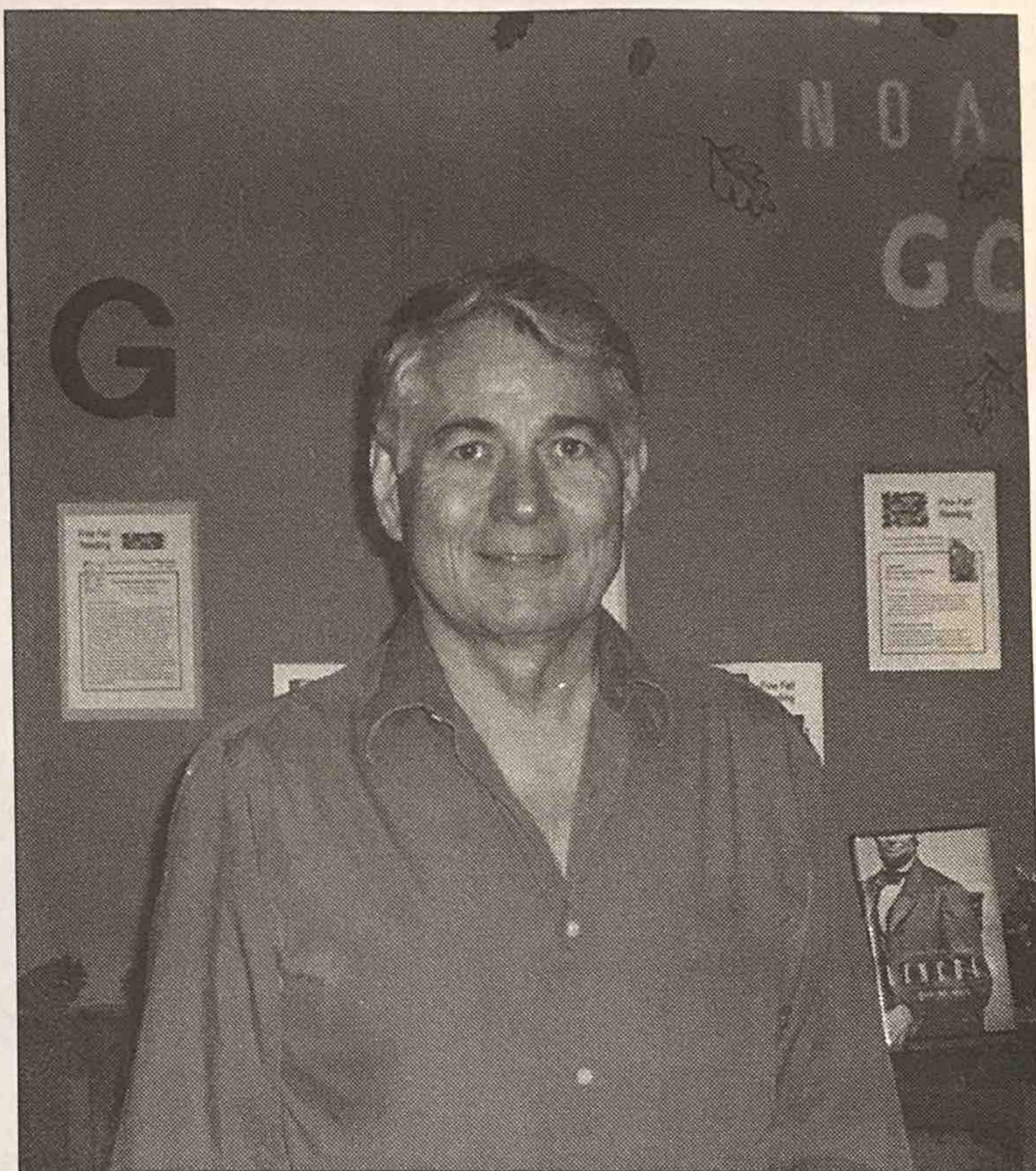
"One of the fascinating things about this book is that it presents a new race, totally different, and yet totally realistic into the fantasy model," stated Davis. "The main character in this book is of a different fantasy race, and is a hard fighting, tough, incredibly quick-healing, and educated barbarian."

English instructor Pam Franklin recommended works from author Lee Smith. Both "Fancy Strut" and "Saving Grace." Both are hilarious according to Franklin.

"Lee Smith reminds me a great deal of Flannery O'Connor," Franklin said. "If you like O'Connor, you will love Lee Smith."

Sara Berry, who works in the educational programs and resources department, recommended "The Bounty Trilogy," by Charles Nordhoff and James N. Hall.

Berry explained that this book



Charles Gillis, Kingwood College's reference librarian, showcases the "Fall Into a Good Book" exhibit. Photo by Erich Eisenach

• "The Millionaire Next Door," by Thomas Stanley and William Danko, suggested by English instructor David Ragsdale.

Gillis said that he encourages the community to utilize the library's resources and explained that, "Anybody who lives in the college district can obtain a free library card."

"Our library is not a 'quiet'

library," laughed Gillis. "We encourage student collaboration."

Another exhibit on display at the library showcases those faculty members who have authored published works.

"This exhibit really illustrates the breadth of talent located right here on campus," Gillis said.

For more information, please call 281-312-1468.

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Sara Berry, who works in the educational programs and resources department, recommended "The Bounty Trilogy," by Charles Nordhoff and James N. Hall.

Berry explained that this book is a fictionalized account of "Mutiny on the Bounty," the mutineers to "Pitcairn Island," and according to Berry, the most spectacular story of the three, "Men Against the Sea."

"I love a good adventure story," said Berry. "I have re-read these three stories many times — this is one of the great 'armchair' adventures."

Kingwood College's theater and drama instructor Eric C. Skiles recommended "Wicked: the Life & Times of the Wicked Witch of the West," by Gregory Maquire which, he said, is an engaging look at a possible birth and life of the Wicked Witch of the West.

"It explores one possible reality that helps explain why the Wicked Witch of the West turned out the way she did," explained Skiles. "She has her own story — she is not just a character in Dorothy's adventure!"

Government instructor Vida Davoudi suggested "Reading Lolita in Tehran," by Azar Nafisi. Davoudi said that the author describes life in the Islamic Republic of Iran and how a group of young women secretly explored Western literature.

"It examines how reading and discussing 'Lolita,' 'The Great Gatsby,' 'Pride and Prejudice,' and other works, influenced their lives and goals," Davoudi explained.

Other recommendations included:

- "The Secret Life of Bees," by Sue Monk Kidd, suggested by Mandy Kallus, English instructor;

- "After the Quake," by Haruki Murakami, suggested by Mari Omori, instructor of fine arts;

- "In the Presence of the Enemy," by Elizabeth George, suggested by English instructor Karen Gee;

- "The Private Science of Louis Pasteur," by Gerald L. Geisen, suggested by Darlynn Ware, occupational therapy instructor;

- "Nashville 1864: the Dying of the Light," by Madison Jones, and "Lincoln: A Foreigner's Quest," by Jan Morris, suggested by former dean of student services Ron Shade;

- "Cold Mountain," by Charles Frazier, submitted by English instructor Suzy Page;

- "The Life of Pi," by Yann Martel, suggested by Designs in Print director Pam Clark;

- "Welcome to the World, Baby Girl," by Fannie Flagg, suggested by counselor Lee Ann Liebst;

- "We're Right, They're Wrong: a Handbook for Spirited Progressives," by James Carville, suggested by government instructor Toni Medellin; and,

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HOUSTON  CHRONICLE

KINGWOOD HUMBLE

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008 • chron.com

ATASCOCITA | SUMMERWOOD | FALL CREEK | NEW CANEY

Get up and go this summer

Visit chron.com/travel for vacation ideas

STORY TIME



Kingwood Branch Library debuts new building



Seated from left: Lella Antenangell, Christi Whittington and Elizabeth Ronald. Middle row: Becky Rosel, Connie Dye and Kim Capps. Back row: Jim Johnson, Barbara Vosbein, Ann O'Burke and Gwen Garrett. Photo by Mary Kelly Bumbaugh

Public invited to birthday bash

BY MARY KELLY BUMBAUGH

Tribune Correspondent

Momentum is growing as innovation and determination transform the Kingwood Library from where it was in 1983 to where it will be in 2009.

"In celebration of the library's 25th anniversary and a new and better one on the way, we invite the community to our birthday bash Aug. 23, from noon to 4 p.m.," said Christi Whittington, Kingwood librarian. "Anniversaries are important because they mark places in our lives, and this one is marking the steps we've taken and those we are about to take."

"I will be broadcasting the event live," said Mark Linabury, announcer at kingwoodradio.com.

A full afternoon of fun will help keep little ones engaged in an area set aside for children's activities. Happy Heart the Clown will visit from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., adding to ongoing crafts, face painting and artwork about the new building.

The adult program begins at 2 p.m. when Whittington reflects on the occasion as a mixture of the "last big celebration in the existing building" and the beginning of things to come. Led by Mike Sullivan, member of the Houston City Council, special invited

guests will join in the festivities.

The arrangements will include an introduction to the library's cutting edge by Rhoda Goldberg, interim director of the Harris County Public Library. One of the new additions is an electronic drive-through loan service.

On the program will be a visual debut of the pre-construction site, and discussion of master planning, specifications and eco-services by a representative of Kirksey Architectural Design, a community, national and global firm.

Scrapbooks compiled through the years will be open, with ample time for reflection on how much the library has benefited Kingwood citizens. It all started when a grassroots campaign, Friends of the Library Kingwood, began fundraising in 1978 and hasn't stopped yet. FOLK is underwriting the birthday bash and hosting it with library staff.

"We've had a wonderful 25 years here as a community library. This party is a way to thank community members for welcoming us into their lives. We feel they are our friends and like to think we are friends of theirs," said Whittington.

The gathering will be at Kingwood Library, a Harris County library branch, 4102 Rustic Woods in Kingwood. Refreshments, including a birthday cake, will be served.

For more information on the event, call 281-360-6804. For more information on the library, visit www.hcpl.net.



Librarian Connie Dye considers a book for children's activities.

KINGWOOD HUMBLE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008 • chron.com/kingwood

KINGWOOD

New library fast-tracked for December 2009 completion

■ Councilman hosts town hall meeting on projects

By ADAM BENNETT
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

Nearly 80 Kingwood residents got a personalized update July 31 on several ongoing projects in the area from Houston City Councilman Mike Sullivan.

Sullivan, the District E representative, outlined the latest on capital improvement projects and traffic plans, as well as fielding questions during a town hall meeting hosted at Woodridge Baptist Church.

Among the status updates tackled were updates on the Kingwood Branch Library, the recycling and community center, a new tower for fire station 101 and the widening of Northpark Drive.

Sullivan, who took office in January, told the crowd that the forum gave him an opportunity to provide constituents the latest information face-to-face and to hear any concerns they may have.

The councilman was joined by his staff, members of the city's police, fire, solid waste, planning and emergency management departments and a representative from Mayor Bill White's office.

Here's the latest from Sullivan on Kingwood's major projects:

■ The 30,000-square foot Kingwood Branch Library is being fast-tracked for a December 2009 completion. Sullivan said the building will feature 125 computer terminals and 50 percent more space than other county li-

braries.

■ City officials are currently working out the legal details for the transfer of land for a two-acre site where the recycling and community center will be. The center is planned to enter the design phase in early 2009 and slated to be completed by 2011.

■ The city has inked an agreement with T-Mobile to replace the existing 100-foot tower with a new 120-foot cell tower that will enhance emergency dispatch capabilities at Fire Station 101. Despite the double-use as a cellular phone tower, Sullivan called the move "a good trade-off."

■ The widening plans for the Northpark Drive project will shift into gear when Council votes next month on appropriations for the project. Design work is expected in September, with work starting in summer 2009.

■ Forest Cove resident Jim Honeycutt voiced his concern over a deep drainage ditch the city had dug in his front yard. Seeking to build a culvert in the swale, he asked for the councilman's support in navigating through the process.

"I've spent \$3,000 so far, before going for permits," he said. "That's just to put a culvert in a little ditch, and there's 200 some people that will have to do the same thing."

■ Carl Bass appealed to Sullivan for increased police patrols in his neighborhood. He said he had requested speed bumps to be placed on his street, but speeding cars remain to be a problem.

Sullivan promised to help and said the open forum with residents helped to keep open lines of communication with his constituents.

"I'll be back in six months or so to do this again," he said.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSAR



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Longtime resident Betty Jones looks through old scrapbooks full of newspaper articles concerning the Kingwood Library. Jones with other community residents were on hand Aug. 23 to celebrate the library's 25th birthday and mark a milestone in the history of the library with the construction of the new library.

BELOW: Harris County Judge Ed Emmett with Precinct 4 Commissioner Jerry Eversole point out several articles where they are featured in the scrapbooks that were displayed at the Kingwood Library's 25th birthday celebration. Between cake, punch and plenty of activities for kids, the afternoon was full of celebration and excitement about the new library that will be built at the end of Bens Branch Drive where it meets Bens View Lane.



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

HOUSTON  CHRONICLE

KINGWOOD JUMBLE

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008 • chron.com



ALL EYES ON HER: Connie Dye, also known as "Miss Connie," reads *The Piggy in the Puddle* to Hannah Simons, 6, right, of Kingwood; Ava Schulze, 5, of Atascocita; Moriah Sun, 6, and Uliana Claros, 3, of Kingwood during the library's preschool story time for ages 3-6 on June 3.



MAKING A NEW FRIEND: Connie Dye, left, entertains children with a sock puppet during the preschool story time for the children

JERRY BAKER PHOTOS : FOR THE CHRONICLE

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BOOKS

Kingwood Branch Library debuts new building



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★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

Page 12A, Kingwood Observer, August 27, 2008

KINGWOOD LIBRARY CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

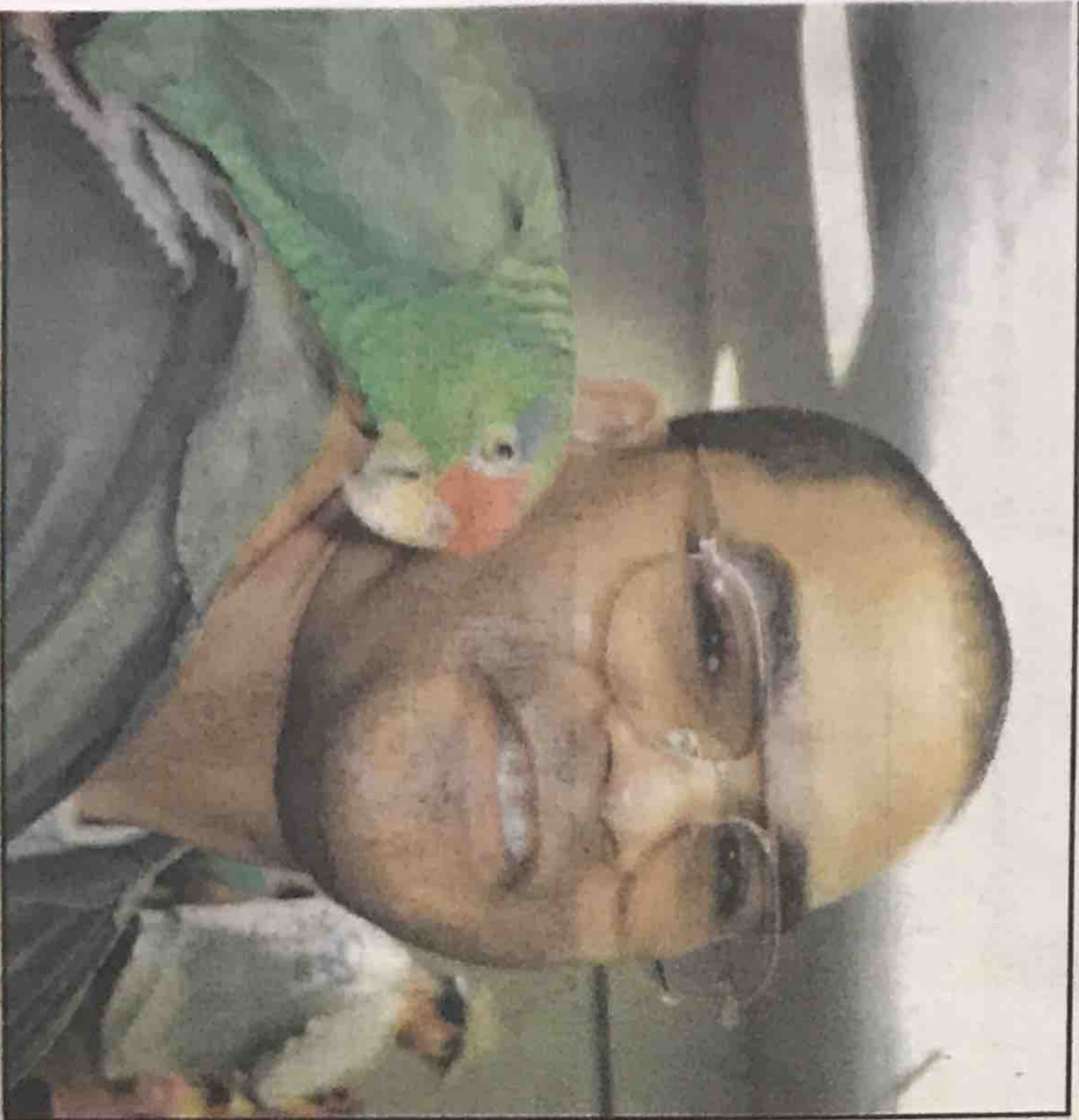


Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer
Kingwood resident Paul Rodriguez and his parrot were at the Kingwood



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER
Mateo Shanahan, left, and Austin Schlosser play with the balloon swords created for them by Happy Heart the Clown at the 25th birthday celebration at the Kingwood Library. Between decorating cookies, face painting, a dance party and coloring table, there were plenty of activities on hand for everyone.



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer
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 also struggling to make a better life but she has found a way. While most replaced the it



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

AT LEFT: Jadon Tucker, with his mom, Stephanie, enter themselves in the drawing for books at the 25th birthday celebration for the Kingwood Library.

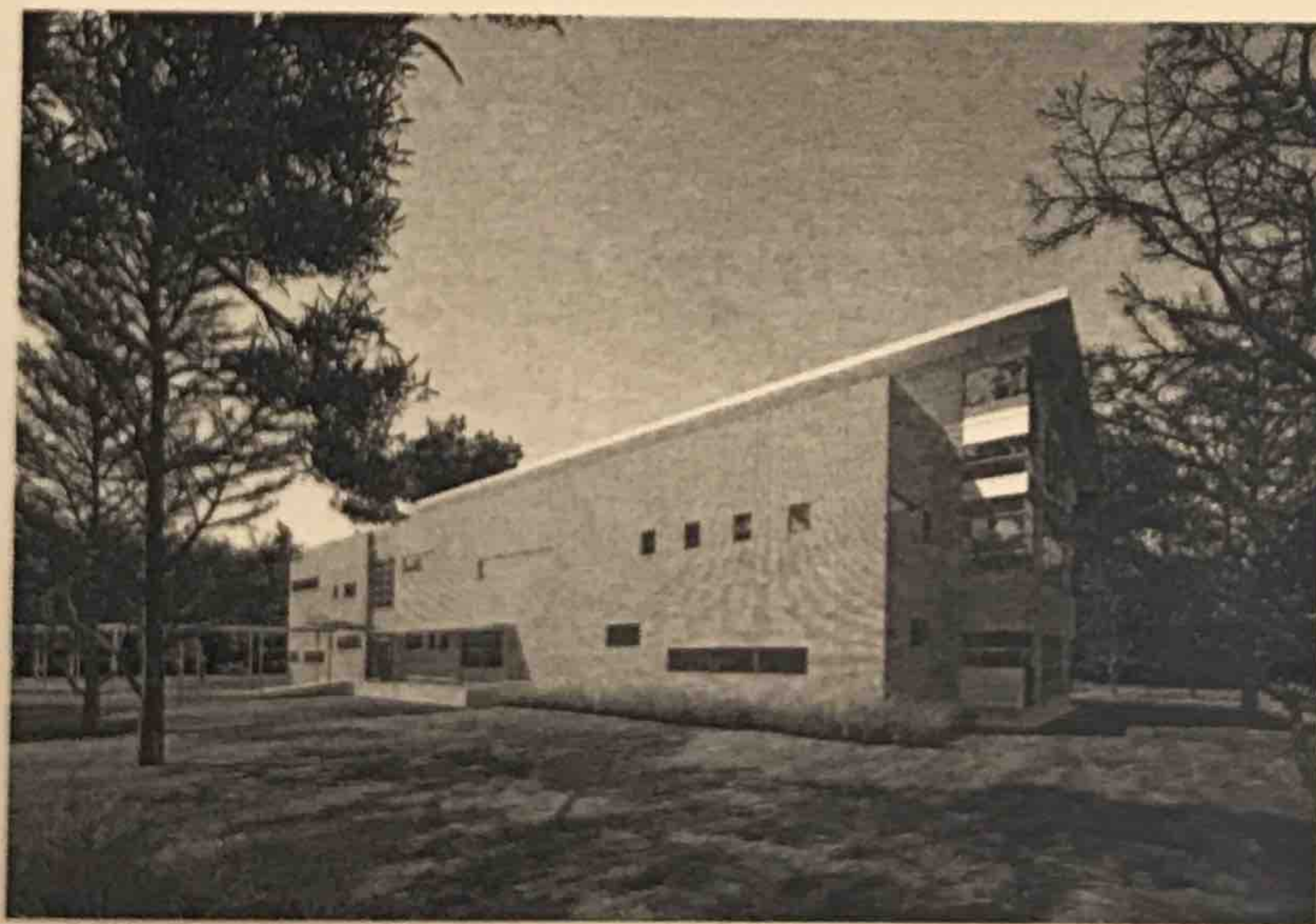
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Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

KINGWOOD HUMBLE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2008 • chron.com/kingwood



Kingwood Branch Library Groundbreaking

Saturday, December 13, 2008

Kingwood library breaks ground Saturday

THE Kingwood community is invited to the opening ceremony on Dec. 13 for its new library.

The construction site is at 4401 Ben's View behind Amegy Bank on West Lake Houston Parkway. The \$8.4 million project is the result of a partnership between Harris County and the city of Houston.

The 30,000-square-foot facility is twice the size of the current library, at 4102 Rustic Woods Drive.

Harris County

Ed Emmett
 El Franco Lee
 Sylvia Garcia
 Steve Radack
 Jerry Eversole

Judge
 Commissioner, Precinct 1
 Commissioner, Precinct 2
 Commissioner, Precinct 3
 Commissioner, Precinct 4

City of Houston

Mayor Bill White

City Controller Annise D. Parker

Toni Lawrence, District A

Jarvis Johnson, District B

Anne Clutterbuck, District C

Wanda Adams, District D

Mike Sullivan, District E

M.J. Khan, District F

Pam Holm, District G

Adrian Garcia, District H

James Rodriguez, District I

Peter Brown, At-Large 1

Sue Lovell, At-Large 2

Melissa Noriega, At-Large 3

Ronald Green, At-Large 4

Jolanda "Jo" Jones, At-Large 5

Harris County Public Library Director, Rhoda Goldberg

Houston Public Library, Director, Dr. Rhea Lawson

Staff, District E

Monica Aizpurua
 Karina Moreno
 Autumn Jodzio

Project Team

Spaw Glass
 Kirksey Architects

Kingwood Branch Library
 Groundbreaking Ceremony Program
 Saturday, December 13, 2008

Welcome and Introductions
 Dr. Katherine Persson
 President, Lone Star College Kingwood

Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance
 Civil Air Patrol Marauder Composite Squadron of Kingwood
 Commanded by Cadet Sergeant Burrell

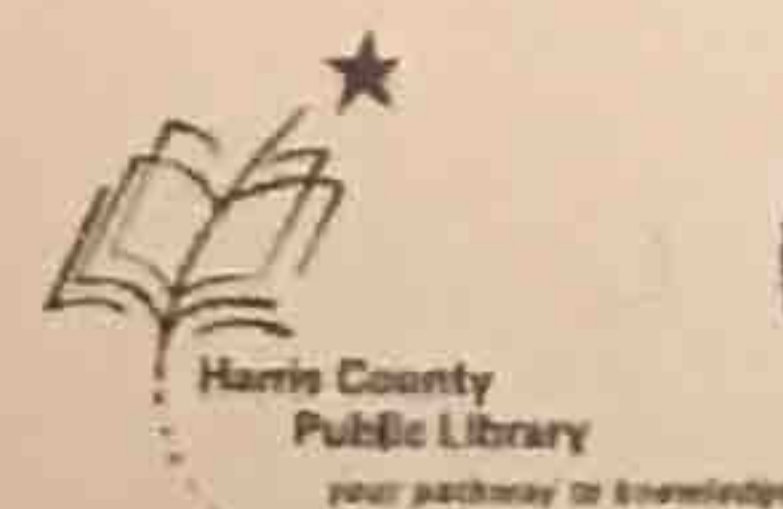
Invocation
 Reverend John Pitts, St. John the Divine Episcopal Church

Remarks
 Mayor Bill White
 Harris County Judge Ed Emmett
 Harris County Commissioner Jerry Eversole
 City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan

Ceremonial Groundbreaking

Reception to follow at Kingwood Branch Library
 4012 Rustic Woods, Kingwood, Texas 77345

Refreshments provided by Friends of the Kingwood Library



KINGWOOD

Library groundbreaking set for Saturday

■ Construction to last 12 to 18 months

By KIM MORGAN
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

The community is invited to an opening ceremony at 10 a.m. Dec. 13 for a new library in Kingwood.

The new library will be located at 4401 Ben's View, behind Amegy Bank on West Lake Houston Parkway.

There will be an open house after the ceremony at the current library location, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive.

Houston City Council Member for District E Mike Sullivan said the \$8.4 million project is the result of a partnership between Harris County and the city of Houston.

Approximately \$6 million is coming from city bond monies, and another \$2 million from the Lake Houston Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone.

The city of Houston will own the land and building, while the Harris County Public Library system will provide services and maintenance.

The library will replace the current Kingwood Branch Public Library at 4102 Rustic Woods Drive, which opened



FIRST LOOK: This is an artists rendition of the what the new library in Kingwood will look like when it is finished. The architectural firm who created the design is Kirksey Architecture.

in 1983. The building, approximately 12,000 square-feet, will be turned into a community center.

The new library, to be certified as energy-efficient, will provide more than twice the space, with two-stories and 30,000-square feet.

Sullivan said the building will be nestled in the 9-acre Kingwood Park. The facility and parking area will occupy approximately 1.5 acres. The majority of the park will be left in its current natural state, he said.

"Kingwood is called the

'Liveable Forest,' " said Carolyn Humphrey, president of Friends of the Library Kingwood. "So the library has been dubbed the 'Tree House.' "

As the fundraising arm of the library, Friends of the Library Kingwood recently launched a campaign in order to purchase more books, new computers and "enhancements" to add to the décor after the City of Houston furnishes the library.

In addition, once the library opens, Friends of the Library Kingwood will oper-

WANT TO GO?

■ **What:** Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Kingwood Public Library

■ **When:** 10 a.m. Dec. 13

■ **Where:** 4401 Ben's View, behind Amegy Bank on West Lake Houston Parkway, followed by an open house at the current library location, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive.

ate a used bookstore on the premises full time.

Meanwhile, Humphrey said they are hoping to raise \$500,000 through donations, plaques and "selling rooms."

"So far I've sold the Quiet Room, the Conference Room and the Bookstore Room," said Humphrey, for a total of approximately \$45,000.

Humphrey said there are plenty of rooms to go around and anyone interested in a brochure can call 281-360-5844.

"We are really excited about this," Humphrey said. "We've wanted this for a long time. Kingwood has gotten so much bigger over the years but the library hasn't. It's going to be wonderful."

The new library is slated to open in 12 to 18 months.

neighborhoods@chron.com

Kingwood Library becomes hot spot for area patrons

By JENNIFER SUMMER

jsummer@hcnonline.com

After a few days without power, residents poured into the Kingwood Library to recharge after Hurricane Ike.

Between power cords for cell phones and battery packs for laptops, there were many obstacles to avoid but the library offered a little bit of something for everyone.

"We are just so happy that we have a place where residents can come check their e-mail, check out books and rest in the air conditioning because there are many, like myself, who still do not have power at their home," Christie Whittington, branch librarian, said.

The library opened its community room to allow laptop computer users a room where they could access the Internet via Wi-Fi while guests were allowed to check out laptops and sign up for computer time at the downstairs desk.

OTHER AREA LIBRARIES

As of Sept. 19, the Atascocita Library was not open and neither was the R.B. Tullis Library. The branches below, though, are open:

- Kingwood, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive
- Octavia Fields in Humble, 1503 South Houston Ave.



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints waited in line to send e-mails to their families to let them know they were OK after the storm.

For several of them, this was their first storm and although their property sustained minor damage, the group spent time after the storm helping fellow neighbors clean their yards and repair storm damage.

"We have plenty of people coming into the library to send messages to friends and family to let them know they are all right."

Residents filled the Kingwood Library Sept. 17 after Hurricane Ike to charge their numerous batteries for laptops, cameras, cell phones and to enjoy the air conditioning while checking their e-mail. A majority of residents around the community did not have power for several days which caused them to rely on the businesses in the community that did have power like the library and several restaurants.

and several of the people that are coming in are filling out paperwork for FEMA," Whittington said.

Each person that signs up to use the computer is given an hour to do everything they need to but if they are filling out FEMA paperwork, that may take longer than an hour.

"We encourage anyone who is filling out paperwork to let us know so we can have them at the front of the line."

know beforehand and we will give them extra time," Whittington explained.

Additionally, library patrons are encouraged to bring a power strip with them because the library only has a few outlets available for people to charge their batteries and use their laptops.

Several guests checked out books before they left the library to help the community while the power is out," Whittington said.

"They can check their e-mails, complete work and pick up a book. The great thing about a book is you do not need electricity to read it. We have become a source of knowledge and power for the community until every-

HOW TO APPLY FOR FEMA

- **First step:** Assess damages and organize important information. FEMA will ask for like social security number, current and pre-disaster address, a telephone number where you can be contacted, insurance information and description of your losses that were caused by the disaster.
- **Second step:** Apply by phone at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or log on to www.fema.gov and apply online. The application process takes about 18 to 20 minutes, so be patient.
- **Third step:** After applying, check the status of your application by phone or online and wait for FEMA to contact you about your status.

NEW LIBRARY SYMBOL OF COMMUNITY PRIDE



Jacob and Leah Dunaway clown with KHS Mustangs mascots at library groundbreaking. Photo by Mary Kelly Bumbaugh

BY MARY KELLY BUMBAUGH

Tribune Correspondent

Following several years of successful collaboration to bring a premier library to Kingwood, city and county officers, library professionals and members of the community gathered Saturday, Dec. 13. In recognition of the emergence of this state-of-the-art library, they celebrated the groundbreaking for what will one day be a dynamic landmark in the area.

"Libraries are near and dear to colleges, with many educators believing access to libraries is a civil rights issue and Lone Star College-Kingwood is in partnership with all local libraries," said Dr. Katherine Persson, president of the college, as she welcomed about 200 attendees.

"This enduring library will make a great community even more of what it is, a place where people of all backgrounds can have a sense

LIBRARY

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"Of the total size, approximately 75 percent is wooded and we will clear less than five percent of that for the library building and parking. The remaining area of trees will be preserved. Additionally, this new library will be Silver Level LEED certified, meaning it will incorporate many state-of-the-art environmental features and will be energy efficient.

"The previous library served the community well and will become a community

center next year. Now we're fortunate and proud to have the newest and most innovative in construction and library science coming together," said Sullivan.

With shovels in hand, White, Emmett, Eversole and Sullivan

led several representatives of the project in breaking ground with the traditional tossing of turf. Following the ceremony, a reception sponsored by Friends of the Library Kingwood was held at the present library.

"This enduring library will make a great community even more of what it is, a place where people of all backgrounds can have a sense of belonging. This is an ambitious project, larger than standard libraries, costing over 8 million, so 'hats off to the library community,'" said City of Houston Mayor Bill White.

The cooperation of the city, county and community was lauded by Judge Ed Emmett who thanked Jerry Eversole, Harris County Commissioner, for contributing to the coordination and implementation of the project. Emmett said the people in Kingwood want to "get things done," and will see that the city remains vital with the new library.

"I am particularly proud of this library for what it will bring to this community and for what it will be for this community. Besides providing 30,000 square-feet of library space, the site will be like none other in the entire city. The total acreage is 9.12 with 1.52 acres for the footprint of the library and its parking. Another 3.33 acres is left for future parking expansion, storm water detention, landscape preserve and for cultivation by the Kingwood Garden Club. The remaining 4.27 acres will be left undisturbed in its current natural state," said Mike Sullivan, City of Houston Council member for District E.

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9

Enter the StoryTubes contest at Harris County Public Library

For anyone who has loved a book so much they couldn't wait to tell someone about it, or for anyone who would like to be the star of their own movie, the Harris County Library has a way to do both. Harris County Public Library is encouraging young readers to get involved in StoryTubes 2009, a national project that fosters creativity and generates interest in reading and technology.

The StoryTubes project asks readers to make a video reviewing a favorite book and enter the video in the StoryTubes contest for national voting. Entries will be accepted until Feb. 15. Online voting in all categories will occur in March. Prizes will be awarded to winners of the online vote and special awards.

The contest is open to

youth in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade. Videos must be two minutes long or shorter, and must feature only one book. Those interested can enter as an individual or as part of a group of two to five people.

There are two ways to enter: upload the video to YouTube or TeacherTube and

submit a StoryTubes Contest Entry Form, found at www.storytubes.com, or ask for help at the local Harris County Public Library. Taping site times can be found on the StoryTubes Web site.

For more information about StoryTubes and to view past entries, visit www.storytubes.com.



THE TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS - KINGWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009

4C

Kingwood Observer, February 4, 2009, Page 5A

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

President Dr. Katherine Persson and many other community members.

"Though we have been in this location for many years, it will be kind of sad to move on but the new location will have so much more and we are very excited," Whittington said.

The schematic plans for the new library illustrates large windows overlooking the green space and spacious rooms to accommodate library patrons.

The design for the building leaves 70 percent of the site as a forested green space and will consist of two floors and 30,000 square feet. The library will be situated on a 9.12-acre tract of land in the circle of Bens Branch Drive off of West Lake Houston Parkway.

"We will have meeting rooms, a children's activity room, conference room, four study rooms and more parking spaces. We are thrilled about more parking and rooms for people to meet and get things accomplished," Whittington said.

Additionally, the new location will have a pick-up and

drop-off window where guests can pick up books they have placed on hold or drop off books they are finished with.

"This will be great for busy moms with young children," Whittington added.

As a new addition, the library is adding a teen room with books that appeal to teens, and the designers' vision is to have about four screens in the room where teens can play games, watch DVDs and other things.

The new location will also have its own special room for members of Friends of the Library Kingwood which was formed in 1978 and was instrumental in Harris County providing a library for Kingwood.

Their special room will be a place where people can volunteer and also look at books that have been donated to FOLK and the group can have its quarterly used book sale.

The library currently hosts video gaming for teens every Thursday featuring "Rock Band" on Xbox 360 and there is also a Nintendo Wii. The library plans to expand on that at the new location.

"I am always so proud and excited because our teens and the

community use the library well. Teens will come in and pull tables together to work on projects or enjoy spending time with each other," Whittington said.

There will also be quiet rooms, computer rooms, study tables and a computer training lab where guests can learn how to use computer programs and current social networking tools and websites.

The colors have already been picked out for the library and are very natural tones, reflecting the natural surroundings of the community.

"Libraries should be full of life and we are glad to provide these services for the community," Whittington said.

The current location of the library will be renovated and transformed into a community center for special meetings and celebrations.

"The new library is going to be wonderful and we have such great plans like our special programming," Whittington said. "They have already started working on the site and we are just very excited about the new Kingwood Library location and everything it will bring each of us."

★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

WEDNESDAY

February 4, 2009

Vol. 32, No. 6

Find the latest local news, sports and more at www.thekingwoodobserver.com

Library moves to new location

By JENNIFER SUMMER
jsummer@hcnonline.com

Tucked back into the woods, the new location for the Kingwood Library will fit into its surroundings and provide a little bit of everything for the community.

With large windows overlooking a forested landscape, spacious meeting rooms, specialized rooms for teens and kids and more room for books, the new library has plenty of

amenities and special features to offer.

"We are very excited about the new library because we will have so much more to offer our guests and we have something for everyone," branch manager Christie Whittington said.

The Kingwood branch was first constructed in 1983 and was dedicated Aug. 21, 1983, only a few days after Hurricane Alicia.

Now, almost 26 years later, the community as well as the li-

brary has continued to grow; thus the new location, near Kingwood Town Center, is expected to be completed and ready for business this December.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the new location was held Dec. 13 and welcomed Mayor Bill White, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, City of Houston Councilman Mike Sullivan, Lone Star College-Kingwood



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer
Engineers and crews have already started to mark off the land with wooden pickets and pink tape where the new location of the Kingwood Library will be.

See LIBRARY, Page 5A

Find the latest local news, sports and more at www.thekingwoodobserver.com

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See LIBRARY, Page 5A

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Personal Organization Solutions for Home, School, Work and Life

- Do You Want...**
- ✓ to have more time for things in life that really count
 - ✓ to be more productive
 - ✓ work more effectively
 - ✓ save money
 - ✓ be less stressed
- and simplify life



Ellen Delap, CPO®

Kingwood's Certified
Professional Organizer

phone: 281-360-3928 fax: 281-360-7014

Email: edelap@professional-organizer.com

www.Professional-Organizer.com

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www.forestimage.com

Organize Your Family Like a Family Manager™

Sometimes it takes a fresh perspective for us to improve our quality of life. What would you think of using business strategies to simplify your home and accomplish more? Think of yourself as the Family Manager™ who creates a team. Working together, your family can create and adopt "House Rules" and "Standard Operating Procedures".

Family communication is critical. To increase this, hold a "Family Meeting" once a week. Choose a day and time each week to hold the Family Meeting to share important dates, upcoming activities and share family members' accomplishments. At the meeting, fill in a calendar with each person's upcoming events and then hang the calendar in the kitchen where everyone can see and review it regularly. After this 30 - 45 minute Family Meeting, create some fun with a special dessert, game night or movie. This team building creates a special bond where everyone is heard and everyone shares what is important.

Establish House Rules with your family. By having a set of House Rules that each member of the family agrees to, everyone know what to expect and there is less stress. This also helps family members work together. Your family collaborates on these in the Family Meeting and then agrees to follow them consistently. House Rules establish the way we interact in relationships. These are ways we respectfully treat our family and friends. Examples of House Rules include "We're all in this together", "no yelling or name calling", and "respect each other's space and stuff". Keep your House Rules simple and short so they are easy to follow.

Standard Operating Procedures are established routines that keep your family running smoothly. In establishing these routines, parents free up time, reduce stress and set expectations that affirm your family's priorities. These include different operational aspects of your family life, including housework, homework and meals. Examples of Standard Operating Procedures include how chores are distributed for each family member and establishing morning and evening routines. With this consistency, each person knows exactly what is expected of them and follows through with it.

Creating a happy, organized home creates good feelings for each family member. By building a family team and creating cohesion in your family, you are affirming all of the family members and nurturing yourself and them. The true benefit of being a Family Manager™ is seeing your family become the interwoven team you envisioned!

Ellen Delap is among an elite group of Certified Family Manager™ (FM) Coaches in the Houston area. Kathy Peel's Certified Family Manager™ Coaches™ are trained through an interactive online classroom training course. The Family Manager™ Coaching transfers management skills and strategies from the business arena to running your home and personal life. Teambuilding, delegation, advance work, standard operating procedures, and other sound business practices will help you reduce daily stress, create a smooth running home, and will facilitate time for self care and recreation.

The Forest Image, FEB-MAR 2009, page 13

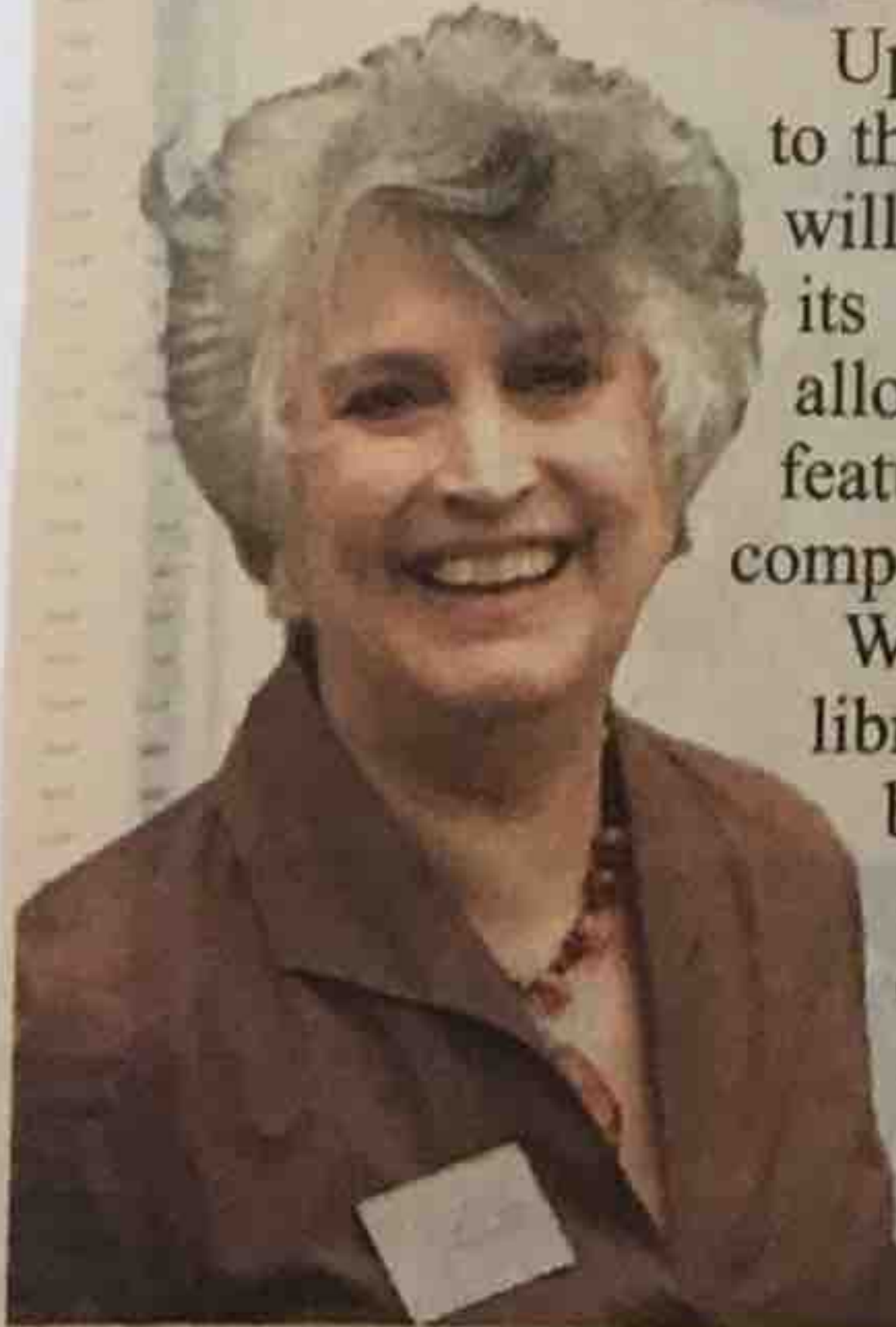
★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

WEDNESDAY
March 11, 2009
Vol. 32, No. 11

BOOKS

THE TRIBUNE
- KINGWOOD
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 4, 2009
SECTION B

LIBRARIAN TELLS THE TALE OF KINGWOOD LIBRARY



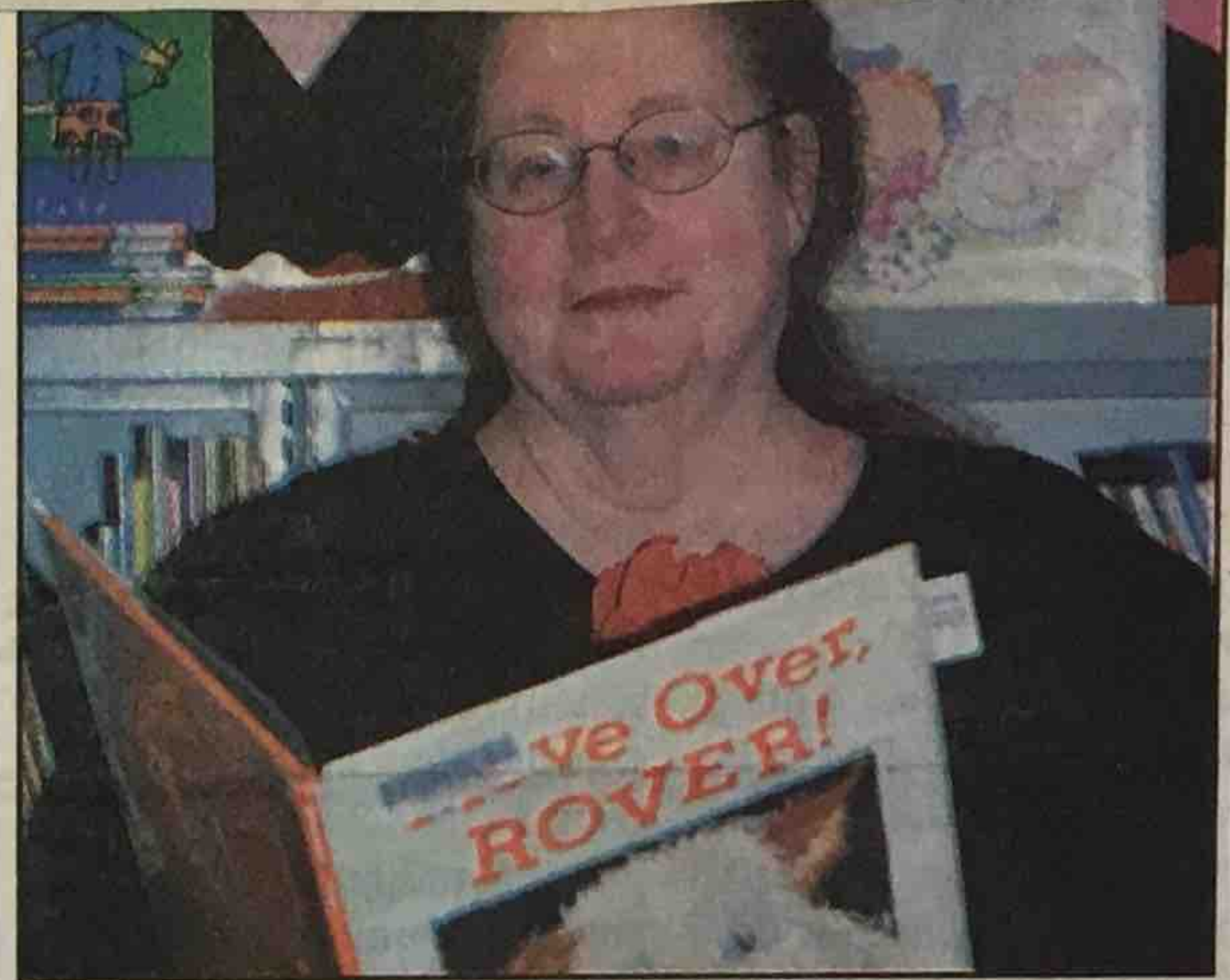
Christi Whittington

Upcoming renovation to the Kingwood Library will more than double its facility's size and allow for additional features, including a new computer training lab.

With the new lab, library staff will begin offering free classes on each of the computer software programs used on all Harris County Public Library computers.

Programs include Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. Also offered will be classes on how to use various databases offered by HCPL and Web 2.0 tools.

As a special bonus, "tech lab" assistants will be on hand to explain the ins and outs of blogs, Flickr and Wiki or any of the IT questions patrons of the public library may have.



DYE

Name:
Connie Dye
Title:
Children's Librarian
Employer:
Kingwood Branch Library,
Harris County Library System
Time on the job:
20 years, 2 months
Duties:

I am responsible for planning and carrying out all the activities for children at this branch. That includes story times, toddler times, infant lap-sit, craft programs, the annual summer reading club and special programs celebrating special occasions. I do reader's advisory for children and adults, work at the reference desk answering questions, and find information and books to complete school assignments. I tell stories on our website, and I do programs at schools and daycare centers upon request. I also orient Boy and Girl Scouts to the library for merit badges, and I do special in-library programs for daycare centers and schools.

Most memorable day on the job:

My most memorable day was not at work. It was at Barnes & Noble when a young man in his 20s asked me if I was the librarian at Kingwood. When I said yes, he said he wanted to thank me for all the times I had helped

SERVICE SUGGESTION

Please send your nominations to sthomas@hcnonline.com or call 281-446-1071.

him when he was in school and now, because of me, he loved books and reading. That made all of my work worthwhile.

Hobbies and interests:

Reading, watching TV, playing with my dog

Favorite show/movie:

"Jeopardy," "Bones," any "Harry Potter" movie

Favorite joke:

All sorts of folks come through the doors of a library. There was this woman who wanted a color photograph of the walls of Jericho before they fell, and the woman who wanted an audio recording of the New Testament in the voice of Jesus, saying she was tired of having people tell her that Jesus said this or that and she wanted to know exactly what he really said. And then there was this patron who came in and said, "I'm looking for a globe." The librarian directed him to the globes. He came back quickly and inquired, "Do you have a life-sized one?" The librarian replied, "Yes, but it's being used right now."

T ★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

WEDNESDAY
May 6, 2009
Vol. 32, No. 19

FOLK to hold spring used book sale May 9

OBSERVER STAFF REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

Friends of the Library Kingwood's next used book sale is Saturday, May 9, at the Kingwood Library, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive at West Lake Houston Parkway, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. FOLK's member preview is on Friday, May 8, from 5 to 8 p.m. Individuals with disabilities (who use a cane, wheelchair, walker) are invited on Thursday, May 7, from 2 to 4 p.m.

FOLK's May used book sale offers an ideal opportunity to plan ahead for summer reading. Whether it's a leisure read for mom, home improvement material for dad, or several books for the teens or children, FOLK's book sale has it all. There are plenty of books and materials for everyone at minimum cost.

Because of generous donations from the community, FOLK has oodles of beautiful children's and young adult books. Additionally, shoppers will find books in the following categories: fiction, biographies and non-fiction, poetry, business and reference, religion and self-help, crafts and hob-

bies, sports, home improvement, parenting, medical and more. Also for sale are media materials including videos, CDs, cassettes and DVDs.

Examples of terrific bargains include hardback and large softback books for \$1, while standard size paperback books are only 50 cents. Newer released hardbacks and coffee table books sell for a mere \$3. Children's and young adult books range in price from 25 cents to \$1. Media materials will also be priced to sell.

Books, magazines and other donations are accepted during business hours of the library. All donations are tax deductible. The library has first choice of all donated items, so they may end up on a shelf or in a used book sale. Either way, the library is the benefactor of the generous donations.

To learn more about FOLK and how becoming a 'friend' of the library will enhance the material and services offered by the KW library, stop by the library's circulation desk, call the library at 281-360-6804, or visit FOLK's newly launched website, www.kingwood-folk.org. 'Friend' memberships start at \$20 annually.

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

A feature in the new Kingwood Branch Library that many customers will appreciate is the Quiet Room. Its function will be exactly what the name implies - a quiet place to work or study.

As the world has changed, so has the public library. Gone are the days when one could hear a pin drop. Libraries are now vibrant, active places, where ESL classes, children's programming, meetings of a local community associations and teenagers working on a school project might be happening all at the same time. Traffic in libraries has increased, as well, with more and more people not only picking up books, DVDs, CDs and audio books or searching for something interesting to check out, but also socializing with friends and neighbors.

The Quiet Room, situated on the second floor of the new library, along with the adult materials, will be a quiet oasis for customers. No cell phones, no beeping computers and no loud talking. For some, it will hearken back to another era, and for others, it will be a new experience. The Kingwood Library hopes it will be a welcome addition.

THE TRIBUNE
- KINGWOOD
WEDNESDAY
MAY 6, 2009
SECTION B

BOOKS

COMMUNITY SHOWS SUPPORT FOR FOLK



Submitted photo
Larry and Michelle Gibbs brought the whole family, baby Tyler and 2-year-old, Gavin, out to the Friends Of the Library Kingwood used book sale on May 9.



Submitted photo
Nine-year-old Taya Taylor looks over the selection of books at the Friends Of the Library Kingwood's used book sale.

Kingwood Observer, July 29, 2009, Page 5B

FOLK offers extended hours for used book sale

OBSERVER STAFF REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

Friends Of the Library Kingwood's August Used Book Sale will be the last quarterly book sale. However, used book sales are not going away, they are taking on a new look.

The first ever Kingwood Library book sale was held in front of the Winn's store and netted \$33. Because of the support of Kingwood and surrounding communities, today's used book sales bring in more than \$5,000, all of which goes to the Kingwood Library. Every book sold at FOLK's used book sales has been donated by the community. FOLK will continue to need those donations when the new library is completed.

When the new library opens, FOLK will have a bookstore which will be open nearly the same hours as the library. The Bookstore for all FOLKS will offer the same selection of quality (donated) books as the quarterly used book sales but on a daily basis. Instead of the usual FOLK preview before the quarterly book sales, FOLK members will receive a 10 percent discount on any books purchased at the bookstore.

What will be exciting for the book/media donors and book sale patrons is they will see donated books go on the bookstore shelves much more quickly. Patrons will no longer have to wait for a book sale to view donated books.

FOLK wants the August book sale to be special for all of the book donors and patrons of the many quarterly book sales. Thus we have lowered the already bargain prices and extended the hours of the book sale. All books with the exception of the coffee table, like new and newer release books which sell for \$3 will be half off.

The extended hours will be Thursday, Aug. 13, 2 to 4 p.m. for the physically challenged (those who use a wheelchair, walker, cane); Aug. 13, 4:30 to 8 p.m. and Friday, Aug. 14, 9 a.m. to noon for the FOLK members preview; Aug. 14, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the public.

FOLK memberships start at \$20 annually.

The Bookstore for all FOLKS will need a lot of volunteers. Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to visit www.kingwoodfolk.org and complete a volunteer form. Even those who have already completed the form are asked to complete the form for a second time; some data was lost upon the purchase of a new computer.

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**FOLK USED BOOK
SALE HEADING FOR
GREAT CHANGES**



FOLK's August Used Book Sale, Aug. 13-15, will be the last quarterly book sale. However, the book sales are not going away, they are taking on a new look, with exciting changes.

The first book sale was held in front of the old Winn's store in the front of Kingwood and netted \$33. Because of the support of the Kingwood and surrounding communities, today's used book sales bring in \$5,000, all of which goes to the Kingwood Library. Every book sold has been donated by the community, and the need is even greater now for donations as Kingwood gets ready for the new library.

When the new library opens, FOLK will have a bookstore which will be open nearly the same hours as the library. "The Bookstore for all FOLKS" will offer the same selection of quality (donated) books as the quarterly used book sales but on a daily basis. Instead of the usual Folk Preview before the quarterly book sales, FOLK members will receive a 10 percent discount on any books purchased at The Bookstore for all FOLKS.

"The Tribune" - August 5, 2009

FOLK wants the August book sale to be truly special so they have lowered the already bargain prices and extended the hours of the book sale.

According to Frances Pelham, FOLK's Used Book Sales chairperson, this is a great way to save money. "The economy has everyone looking for ways to save money," she said. "FOLK's August book sale and future bookstore's prices can't be beat: prices range from 50 cents to \$3 with sets of books going for around \$20."

Pelham is enthusiastic about what the FOLK book sale (and future store) can offer. "Even during an economic crunch, you can travel around the world and even into space from the comforts of your home," she said. "The contents of any book, whether it's for pleasure or research, takes you any place you want to go. Kingwood has the best of all worlds: FOLK sells books, media materials and magazines at bargain prices every day."

The Bookstore for all FOLKS will need a lot of volunteers. For those interested, go to www.kingwoodfolk.org.

**AUGUST USED BOOK
SALE HOURS**

Thursday, Aug. 13: 2 - 4 p.m. - physically challenged (use wheelchair, walker, cane); 4:30-8 p.m. - FOLK members preview*. Friday, Aug. 14: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. - FOLK members preview*; 12-5 p.m. - public. Saturday, Aug. 15: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - public. *FOLK memberships at \$20 annually.

Charles E. Gray, PhD

16 Louis Circle
Cold Spring, K& 41076

Frances M. Pelham
Friends Of the Library Kingwood
P.O. Box 5352
Kingwood, Texas 77325-5353

Dear Ms. Pelham

Enclosed is a photocopy of the cover of my "Eastern Religions and Western Thought" paperback which I purchased at Southern Illinois University. You can tell it has been used extensively over the years. I wanted another copy. I checked Amazon.com, and there was your listing. It is perfect – for regular use...while I save the memories represented by my worn paperback.

Upon graduating from Baylor, I was employed by the Illinois Baptist State Association as Baptist Student Union Director/Instructor in Music at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois.

This state university had approximately 1,200 international students from many nations. Each year, the BSU, with local churches' support, sponsored an International Student Banquet. I wrote to the Presidents of each nation represented in our student body, asking that they send greetings to their students. The response was outstanding. Five member of the Kenyan Parliament were coincidentally visiting SIU and they were special guests.

After the welcome and introductions, my student choir sang "This is My Country." When the choir came to the dramatic chorus, about twenty-five Boy Scouts entered single file into the banquet hall, each carrying a flag representing one of the various nations, as the choir sang – "This is my country...Land of my Birth... This is my country...Grandest on earth." Without any instructions to do so, all 1,200 attendees stood instantaneously as the first flag entered – It was a united body from many nations.

Among the letters from their countries, one letter was from then President of India, S. Radhakrishnan. I still have the letter. At the time, I knew little about him. Now, I know what a world treasure he was...and still is through his writings.

Nothing like a brief "Thank You" note....

CEG

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, OM, FBA (Telugu:సర్వేపల్లి రాధాకృష్ణ, Tamil: சர்வேபள்ளி ராதாகிருஷ்ணன்), (5 September 1888 – 17 April 1975), was an Indian philosopher and statesman.

One of the most acclaimed scholars of comparative religion and philosophy, he was among the scholars of 20th century that built a bridge between Eastern and Western thought showing each to be comprehensible within the terms of the other. He introduced Western idealism into Indian philosophy and provided substantial exegesis of India's religious and philosophical literature to English speaking peoples. His academic appointments included the King George V Chair of Mental and Moral Science at the University of Calcutta (1921-?) and Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics at Oxford University (1936-1952).

He was the first Vice President of India (1952-1962), and the second President of India (1962-1967). His birthday is celebrated in India as Teacher's Day.

Contents

- 1 Personal life and background
 - 1.1 Education
 - 1.2 Marriage
- 2 Career
- 3 Philosophy
- 4 Works
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Personal life and background

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born into a middle class Telugu brahmin family at Tirutani, a town in Tamil Nadu, India, 64 km to the northwest of Madras (now Chennai). His early years were spent in Tirutani and Tirupati. His father was a subordinate revenue official in the service of a local zamindar. Radhakrishnan's family embraced the current Hindu religion, with its rituals and visits to the temples.^[1]

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan



2nd President of India

In office

13 May 1962 – 13 May 1967

Preceded by Rajendra Prasad

Succeeded by Zakir Hussain

Vice President of India

In office

1952 – 1962

Born	5 September 1888 Tirutani, Tamil Nadu, India
Died	17 April 1975 (aged 86) Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
Spouse	Sivakamu
Children	five daughters and a son
Occupation	Politician, Philosopher, Professor
Religion	Perennial Philosophy

EASTERN RELIGIONS AND WESTERN THOUGHT

SECOND EDITION

S. Radhakrishnan

This challenging and beautifully written book describes the leading ideas of Indian philosophy and religion, and defends them from the attacks to which they have been subjected by certain critics. It traces the probable influence of Indian mysticism upon Greek thought and on Christian development; through Alexandrian Judaism, Christian Gnosticism, and Neoplatonism. The author argues that Christianity, which arose out of an Eastern background and became wedded early in its career to Graeco-Latin culture, will find its re-birth in a renewed alliance with this Eastern heritage.

'This book may well mark the turning point in Western civilization. It certainly should.'

—*The Times Literary Supplement*

'An important and beautiful book written with earnest conviction and conspicuous ability . . . The author makes his main point that we . . . have much to learn, and more to unlearn from India. We have neglected our opportunities during our long association with a civilization much older and more mature than our own. It is not too late to remedy our fault.'—*Philosophy*

S. Radhakrishnan, who is Vice-President of the Republic of India and member of the Constituent Assembly for India, was for many years Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics, Oxford University. Among his other activities, he has been leader of the Indian Delegation to UNESCO, chairman of its executive board, and in 1953 he was named chancellor of Delhi University. He is the author of books on Indian philosophy and translator of *The Dhammapadam*.

A GALAXY BOOK

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, NEW YORK

EASTERN RELIGIONS AND WESTERN THOUGHT

By S. Radhakrishnan



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Thanks!
Frances M. Pelham

Frances M. Pelham
Used Book Sales Chairperson
Friends Of the Library Kingwood
P. O. Box 5353
Kingwood, Texas 77325-5353

BOOKS

FOLK USED BOOK SALE HEADING FOR GREAT CHANGES



FOLK's August Used Book Sale, Aug. 13-15, will be the last quarterly book sale. However, the book sales are not going away, they are taking on a new look, with exciting changes.

The first book sale was held in front of the old Winn's store in the front of Kingwood and netted \$33. Because of the support of the Kingwood and surrounding communities, today's used book sales bring in \$5,000, all of which goes to the Kingwood Library. Every book sold has been donated by the community, and the need is even greater now for donations as Kingwood gets ready for the new library.

When the new library opens, FOLK will have a bookstore which will be open nearly the same hours as the library. "The Bookstore for all FOLKS" will offer the same selection of quality (donated) books as the quarterly used book sales but on a daily basis. Instead of the usual Folk Preview before the quarterly book sales, FOLK members will receive a 10 percent discount on any books purchased at The Bookstore for all FOLKS.

FOLK wants the August book sale to be truly special so they have lowered the already bargain prices and extended the hours of the book sale.

According to Frances Pelham, FOLK's Used Book Sales chairperson, this is a great way to save money. "The economy has everyone looking for ways to save money," she said. "FOLK's August book sale and future bookstore's prices can't be beat: prices range from 50 cents to \$3 with sets of books going for around \$20."

Pelham is enthusiastic about what the FOLK book sale (and future store) can offer. "Even during an economic crunch, you can travel around the world and even into space from the comforts of your home," she said. "The contents of any book, whether it's for pleasure or research, takes you any place you want to go. Kingwood has the best of all worlds: FOLK sells books, media materials and magazines at bargain prices every day."

The Bookstore for all FOLKS will need a lot of volunteers. For those interested, go to www.kingwoodfolk.org.

AUGUST USED BOOK SALE HOURS

Thursday, Aug. 13: 2 - 4 p.m. - physically challenged (use wheelchair, walker, cane); 4:30-8 p.m. - FOLK members preview*. Friday, Aug. 14: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. - FOLK members preview*; 12-5 p.m. - public. Saturday, Aug. 15: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - public. *FOLK memberships start at \$20 annually.

Library features new daytime book club

By MARY KELLY BUMBAUGH

Tribune Correspondent

The Kingwood Library invites readers who find it difficult to attend evening book clubs to participate in a new daytime group now being offered. The club will meet the second Monday of the month at the library, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive; however, the day and time can be changed to meet members' needs.

"The evening group is going well, but we became aware that a day group would be good for those who don't work during the day, take care of children in the evening or otherwise can't attend in the evening. This new group gives readers an option for sharing their love of reading," said Elizabeth Ronald, reference librarian. "The staff decided it wouldn't hurt to give it a try and it's open to everyone."

Ronald, who facilitates the evening group, will be a resource for the day group, facilitated by an experienced volunteer. Ronald said she



begins the evening group with information about the author of the book the group is reading and introduces book reviews followed by members' discussion; however, the new group may set their own procedures depending on what works best for them.

"At the first meeting, while enjoying refreshments and conversation to become acquainted, new members will be asked to begin to organize by discussing motivations for joining, identifying what they like to read then choosing a book for discussion at the next meeting," said librarian Connie Dye.

"We have a book display in the library on how to start a book club, including how to select books," Ronald said. "Anyone is welcome to sit in on the book clubs to see how they proceed. Many visitors come and go, join or use me as a resource to start their own club."

"How to start a book club" is available on Google or call 281-360-6804.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME AT BOOK CLUBS

Atascocita Library 361-9203.
"Atascocita Reads" meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., 19520 Pinehurst Trail Drive. Members are currently reading "The Fiction Class" by Francine Breen and "Reading like a Writer" by Francine Prose. Call 281-812-2162.

Atascocita Library poetry group meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., 19520 Pinehurst Trail Drive. Members bring their own or published works for reading and informal review. The program is for 18 and older. Call 281-812-2162.

Kingwood Library readers meet the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m., 4102 Rustic Woods Drive. They are currently reading "The Wedding" by Dorothy West. Call 281-360-6804.

Kingwood United Methodist Church book group for singles meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m., 1799 Woodland Hills Drive. The group is currently reading "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle" by David Wroblewski. Call 281-

Octavia Fields Library
"Read it and eat it" meets the last Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m., 1503 South Houston Avenue. Members are reading "Devil in a Blue Dress" by Walter Mosley and bring food to complement what they read. Call 281-446-3377.

The Lone Star College-Kingwood Academy for Lifelong Learning book club for seniors meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m., EMCID complex. The club is currently reading "The Janissary Tree" by Jason Goodwin. Call 281-312-1750.

The Women's Book Group meets the second Thursday of the month at noon and eats lunch together at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 2929 Woodland Hill Dr. Members are currently reading "The Good Earth" by Pearl Buck. Call 281-358-3154.

Barnes & Noble provides an online book club. Visit www.bn.com or call 281-540-3060.

THE OBSERVER

ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM WINNER



Submitted photo

Misty Dowdell, right, was the Kingwood Branch Library winner of the 2009 Adult Summer Reading Program. Her name was drawn at random from the Kingwood Branch SRP participants. Each participant read or listened to four or more books for a chance to win prizes from Amazon.com. The prizes were provided by the Harris County Public Library Friends Council, with a winner drawn at each branch. Christi Whittington, branch librarian, presented the award to Dowdell.

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2009
Vol. 32, No. 36



THE TRIBUNE
- KINGWOOD
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2009
SECTION B

BOOKS

Congratulations to Misty Dowdell, the Kingwood branch winner of the 2009 Adult Summer Reading Program "Reader Nation." Her name was drawn at random from the Kingwood branch participants.

Each participant read or listened to four or more books for a chance to win

prizes from Amazon.com. The prizes were provided by the Harris County Public Library Friends Council, with a winner drawn at each branch; and a grand prize winner, a second and third place winner drawn from all the participants.

If you did not join this year, rest assured they will

be offering another chance next summer. In addition to the pleasure of reading or listening to audio books, you may be the one whose name is drawn for a gift card. How great is that?!

The libraries love to spread the joy of reading – and summer is sure to follow spring. Look for the 2010 Summer Reading Program publicity next May and sign up.

FOLKs await the opening of the New Kingwood Library...

Everyone in the Kingwood and surrounding communities has the completion of the new 30,000 square foot library at the top of their Christmas lists. As you can see, the building construction has come a long way since the December 2008 groundbreaking. "The walls are up, floors are down, interior is taking shape," says branch librarian Christi Whittington. "The building is on target to be completed by the end of this year. However, we won't be able to get furniture, fixtures and books in place to open by Christmas. My fantasy is a Grand Opening of the new library as a Valentine's gift. We just have to keep our fingers crossed."

Until the new library opens, The Friends Of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) will continue to offer books for sale in the library and library foyer. There will be a nice selection of books for the bookworms on your holiday shopping list. Books sold by FOLK range from 50 cents to \$3 dollars for newer releases and coffee table books.

Because it is the holiday season, FOLK would like to remind everyone that they have the opportunity to make a lasting contribution in the tradition of community spirit and commitment. Define an area, honor an individual or designate a gift and you will enhance the surroundings of the new Kingwood Branch Library in two of several ways:

DONOR BOOKPLATE RECOGNITION: Make a lasting memory or honor someone such as a friend, family member or special event. Reference books are \$50.00 each while Adult or children's books are \$25.00.

ENGRAVED PAVERS: Serving as permanent commemorative icons, pavers in your name or for someone else will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. Engraved pavers sell for \$150.00 each.

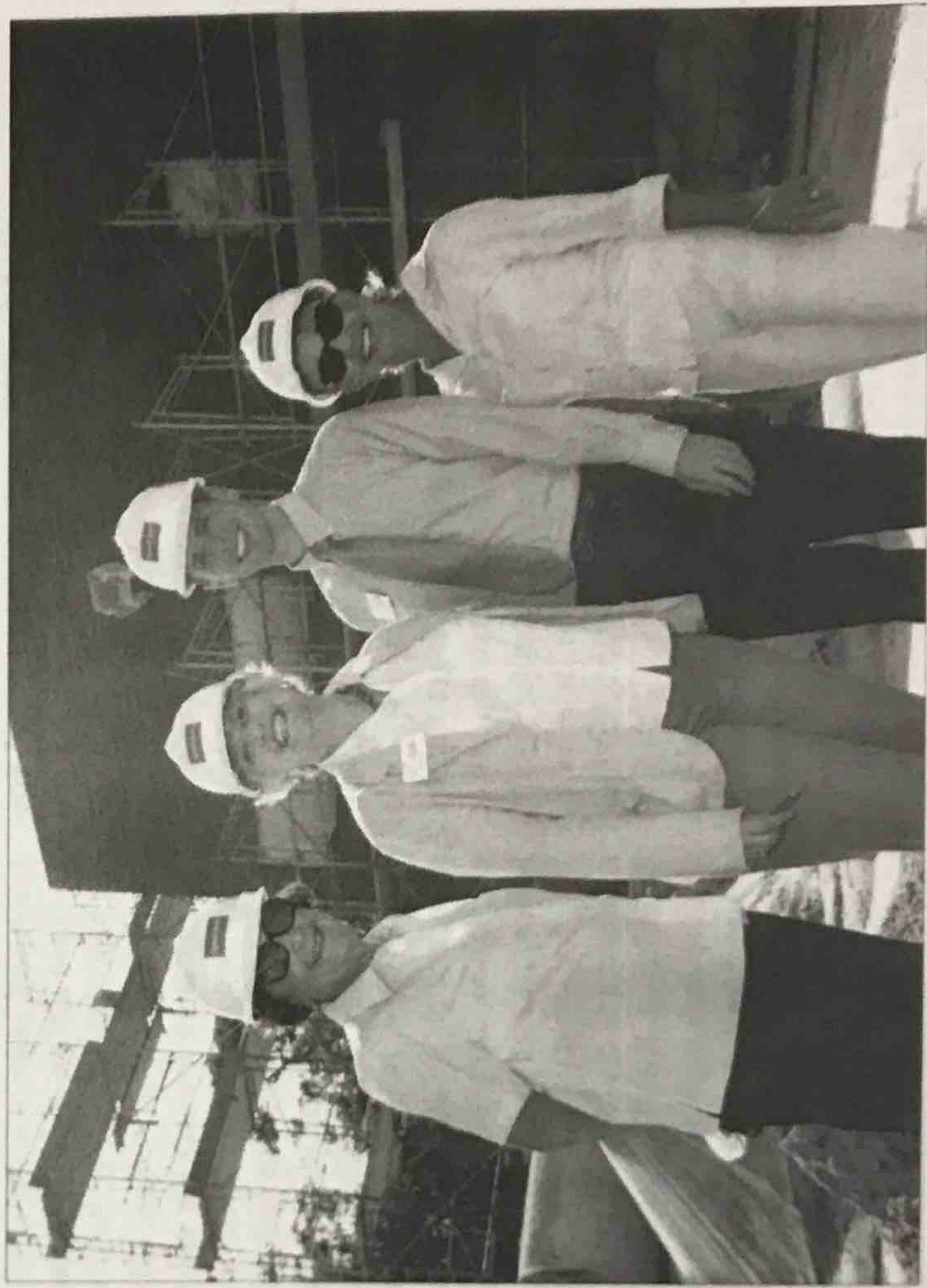
For details regarding the purchase of a **BOOKPLATE, ENGRAVED PAVERS** or other **LEVELS** of contributions call Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261 or Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844.

Donated books, magazines, and media materials are accepted year

round during the business hours of the library. If you are interested in volunteering in the Friends' Bookstore for all FOLKS, or becoming a 'friend' of the library, go to FOLK's website: www.kingwoodfolk.org. Friend memberships start at \$20.00 yearly and will earn you a 10% discount each time you visit FOLK's Bookstore for all FOLKS at the new library. Donations and gifts to the Friends of the Library Kingwood are fully tax-deductible.

Pictured left to right are Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK President, Christi Whittington, Library Branch Manager, Jim Johnson, Library Asst Branch Manager and Connie Jaeger, FOLK Special Project Chairperson.

Photo by Pat and Ray's Studio



HOUSTON  CHRONICLE

KINGWOOD HUMBLE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2009 • chron.com/kingwood

ATASCOCITA | SUMMERWOOD | FALL CREEK | NEW CANEY

HURRICANE IKE ANNIVERSARY

Time to be prepared



JERRY BAKER : FOR THE CHRONICLE

DOING THEIR PART: Francisco Sanchez, right, liaison for Harris County Homeland Security Emergency Management, and Jim Johnson, assistant branch librarian for the Kingwood Branch Library, are part of a team of Harris County employees who have teamed up to present a pair of hurricane preparedness seminars in Humble and Kingwood.

■ Harris County officials holding preparedness workshops

By PAM GIBBENS
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

Representatives from the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will visit two area libraries to discuss hurricane preparedness.

Jim Johnson, assistant librarian at Kingwood Library, confirmed the program is scheduled for 7 p.m., Sept. 16.

"The county is organizing this," said Johnson. "They'll present the program at every single branch."

While Atascocita had its program on Sept. 3; Octavia Fields Library in Humble is scheduled to have its program at 7 p.m., Sept. 24.

Francisco Sanchez, spokesperson with Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management,

said the agency is partnering with more than 20 libraries to help the community prepare for the next hurricane or natural disaster.

"After Hurricane Ike, people went to the libraries to recharge their cell phones and lap tops, so it's natural that we would partner with them. We've got our Web site linked on the library's site and we've worked with them to make door-hangers with emergency information on them."

The purpose of the presentations is to educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies.

"They will cover things like the lessons we learned after Hurricane Ike, how to make a hurricane kit and the need to have a plan," said Sanchez.

"We remind people to have plenty of zip-lock bags on hand. You can put important documents in them, like your insurance papers. And, it's a good idea to bring your own pillow and blanket especially if you have to go to a shelter. You should have enough food

and water to last for a week. Peanut butter is a good food choice."

When Hurricane Rita targeted Houston, a mass exodus of people tried to evacuate, causing significant traffic snarls on most major routes leading out of town. After that storm, officials adjusted evacuation plans.

"Since Rita we use the Zip Code map to evacuate people," said Sanchez. "It works well to stagger the evacuation. The people closest to the coast have to get out first. If people aren't advised to evacuate, they should ride out the storm. If they are without power, they can always evacuate after the storm passes."

Special precautions and plans for elderly or disabled individuals should be in place long before a hurricane hits. For those who need transportation, call 2-1-1. Pets should also be attended to.

For details about the presentations, visit www.hcpl.net. For more hurricane preparedness tips go to www.hcoem.org or www.ready.gov.

BE PREPARED

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security declared September as National Preparedness Month. Citizens are advised to:

■ **Get a kit:** Should include food, water, medicine, flashlights, batteries, battery-powered radios and clothes.

■ **Make a plan:** Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so make a plan in advance to know how reach each other and how to stay in contact.

■ **Be informed:** Know the different types of emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate ways to respond to them.

■ **Get involved:** Residents are asked to join with any community volunteer groups that are committed to helping when disaster strikes.

source: www.ready.gov

★ KING WOOD ★

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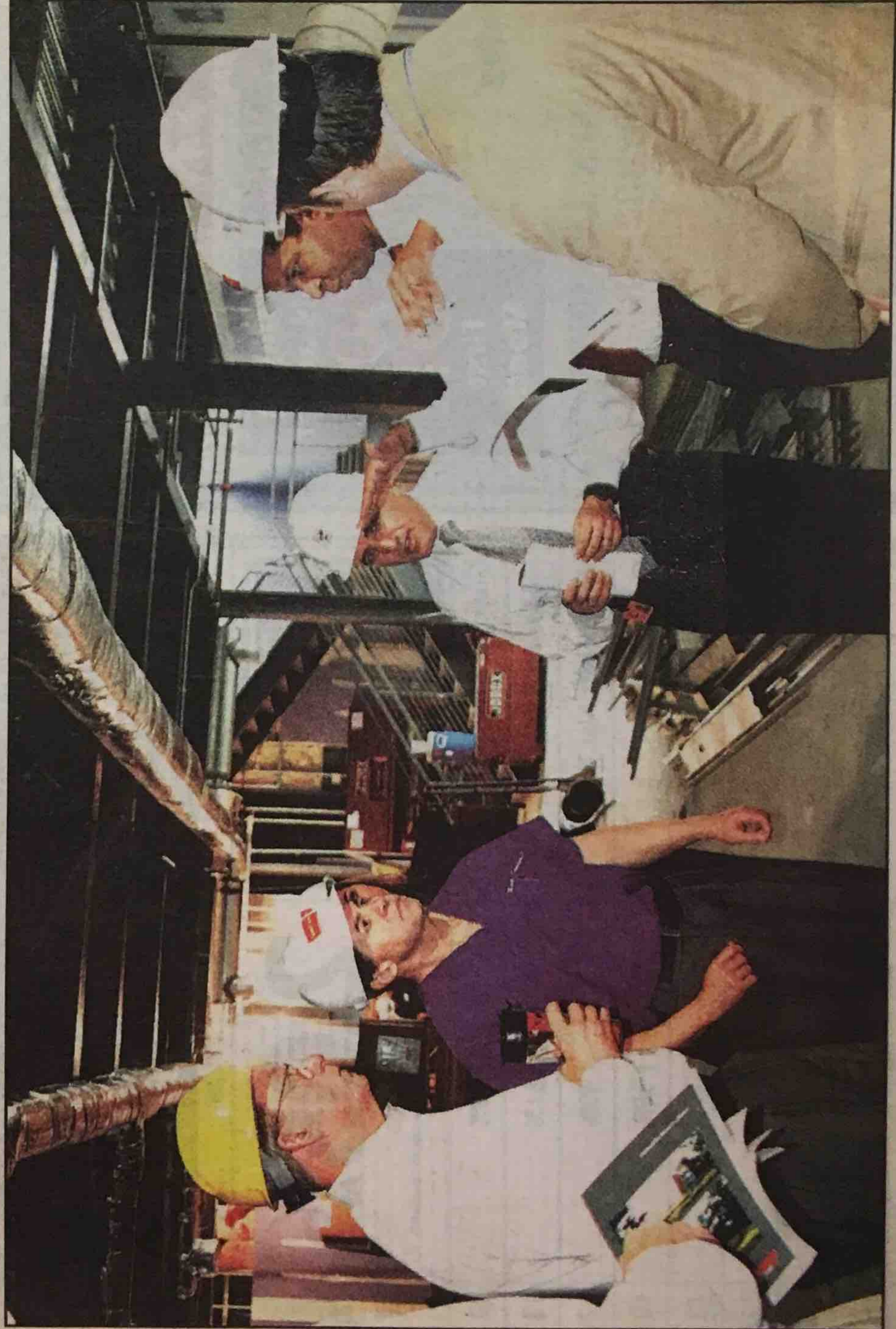
THE OBSERVER

WEDNESDAY

Find the latest local news, sports and more at www.thekingwoodobserver.com

OCTOBER 7, 2009 ■ Vol. 32, No. 41

ON THE BOOKS



Crews from Kirksey Architects, SpawGlass Construction Company and community residents took a hard hat tour through the new Kingwood branch library Sept. 29. The library is scheduled to be completed and opened to the public by December.

Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Library project on schedule

By **JENNIFER SUMMER**
jsummer@hcnonline.com

Construction on the new Kingwood Library is on schedule as crews are working to have the facility ready for Harris County to start moving in by mid-November.

The two-story, 9.12-acre facility was constructed by Kirksey Architecture in a partnership with the city of Houston and when construction is complete, the keys will be turned over to the Harris County Public Library System to manage the library.

The construction on the new library started in December 2008 and the building is scheduled to be open to the public this December.

"We are very excited about the new library because of all of the amenities it has to offer. We hope with all of the improvements we will encourage more people in the community to visit the library," Gregg

an open room filled with adult literature which will measure 7,593 square feet. There are tables and chairs as well as several study rooms located on the side of the stacks.

"Each of the study rooms will have glass doors and a table where adults can study or get some work done. We will also have a teen room on the second floor which will have their own stacks in an open space and a teen media room," Kalba explained.

"The great thing is the teens have to walk through the stacks of books before they get to the media room so hopefully it will encourage them to check out books."

The teen media room is designed to allow patrons to play video games, interactive educational games and provide a place where they can watch videos provided by the library.



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

City of Houston District E Council Member Mike Sullivan looks over the blueprints for the new Kingwood branch library during a hard hat tour of the building Sept. 29.

Kalba, senior associate with Kirksey Architecture, said during a hard hat tour Sept. 29. The second floor of the new library will be for adults and teens. A majority of the second floor will be

See **LIBRARY, Page 5A**

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

Both floors of the building are flooded with natural light as large picture windows allow for the light to come in and guests to look out at the surrounding trees.

Also, the second floor will have a computer lab with 20 computers set up so the library can continue to host its computer training courses and other courses.

The first floor will be home to the children's library, which measures 4,619 square feet, and the children's activity area, which is 480 square feet.

"The great thing about the stacks of books in the children's area are they will be small enough for them to reach books and you can see straight through the room, over the stacks," Kalba said.

The whole library can hold up to 400 occupants and the new location will allow for the collection to expand by 30 percent, from 100,000 to 130,000 volumes.

The new building will also be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rated and is designed to achieve the LEED silver certification.

"The building is very energy-efficient from the air conditioning unit to the exterior lighting, which has been reduced to a minimum, and all non-safety lights will be turned off at night," Jeff Chapman of Kirksey EcoServices said.

The LEED rating also protects over half of the site from being developed. The detention pond will be used to maintain a pre-existing stormwater discharge rate. The building will have low-flow water fixtures and a variety of other energy-efficient measures

MORE INFO

Call the Kingwood Branch Library at 281-360-6804 or log on to <http://www.hcpl.net/location/kingwood-branch-library>.

30-year anniversary celebration Sept. 19.

The building where the library is currently housed will be demolished and rebuilt as a community center for resi-

dents to use for meetings and celebrations.

"We are very excited about the many opportunities and the diversity the new library will have to offer. We have a

place for children's activities, teens, adults and a conference room," Christie Whittington, branch librarian, said.

"We will have more room for everyone and so much more space to have room for small groups, large groups and training courses. I love the building we are in currently, but so excited and ready for our new building."

Another unique feature of the new library is a shop for the Friends of the Library - Kingwood where customers will have the chance whenever the library is open to shop the racks of used and donated books.

FOLK will be selling bricks for the pedestrian walkway for those in the community interested.

"We also have a meeting room which will be available to groups in the community. They can use this room even if the library closes so this will be a great asset to the community," Kalba said.

Additionally, when the building is opened, there will be two flags, the United States and the Texas flag flying high. They were both donated to the library and presented to City of Houston Council Member, District E, Mike Sullivan at the

T KINGWOOD THE OBSERVER

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 21, 2009
Vol. 32, No. 43



FOLK awaits the opening of the new Kingwood Library

From Community Reports
observereditor@hcnonline.com

Everyone in Kingwood and surrounding communities has the completion of the new 30,000-square-foot library at the top of their Christmas lists. The building construction has come a long way since the December 2008 ground-

breaking.

"The walls are up, floors are down, interior is taking shape," said branch librarian Christi Whittington. "The building is on target to be completed by the end of this year. However, we won't be able to get furniture, fixtures and books in place to open by Christmas. My fantasy is a grand open-

ing of the new library as a Valentine's gift. We just have to keep our fingers crossed."

Until the new library opens, the Friends Of the Library Kingwood will continue to offer books for sale in the library and library foyer. There will be a nice selection of books for the bookworms on everyone's holiday shopping list.

Books sold by FOLK range from 50 cents to \$3 for newer releases and coffee table books.

Because it is the holiday season, FOLK would like to remind everyone that they have the opportunity to make a lasting contribution in the tradition of community spirit and commitment. There are two ways patrons can do this:

Donor bookplate recognition - Make a lasting memory or honor someone such as a friend, family member or special event. Reference books are \$50 each while adult or children's books are \$25.

Engraved pavers - Serving as permanent commemorative icons, pavers in an individual's name will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. Engraved pavers sell for \$150 each.

For details regarding the purchase of a bookplate, engraved paver or other levels of contributions, call Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261 or Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844.

Donated books, magazines and media materials are accepted year-round during business hours of the library. Anyone interested in volunteering in the Bookstore for all FOLKS or becoming a 'friend' of the library can go to FOLK's website, www.kingwoodfolk.org.

Friend memberships start at \$20 yearly and will earn members a 10 percent discount each time they visit FOLK's Bookstore for all FOLKS at the new library.

FOLKS await the opening of the new Kingwood Library

Everyone in the Kingwood and surrounding communities has the completion of the new 30,000-square foot library at the top of their Christmas lists. As you can see, the building construction has come a long way since the December 2008 groundbreaking.

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Until the new library opens, the Friends Of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) will continue to offer books for sale in the library and library foyer on Rustic Woods. There will be a selection of books for the bookworms on your holiday shopping list. Books sold by FOLK range from 50 cents to \$3 newer releases and coffee table books.

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Taking a tour of the future Kingwood Library are, from left: Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK president, Christi Whittington, library branch manager, Jim Johnson, library asst branch manager, Connie Jaeger, FOLK special project chairperson.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS

FOLK RECEIVES DONATION



Submitted photo

Amegy Bank contributes \$1,750 to the Friends Of the Library Kingwood. This money is to purchase five pavers which will border the sidewalk at the entrance of the new library and a plaque which will be displayed in the foyer of the new library. FOLK members Carolyn Humphrey and Connie Jaeger, fourth and fifth from left, accept the check from Amegy staff members, from left, Ngoc Nguyen, James Haberman, Monica Zubia and Chris MacLaughlin. For more details about library contributions, visit FOLK's website at www.kingwoodfolk.org, or call Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261 or Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844.

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★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

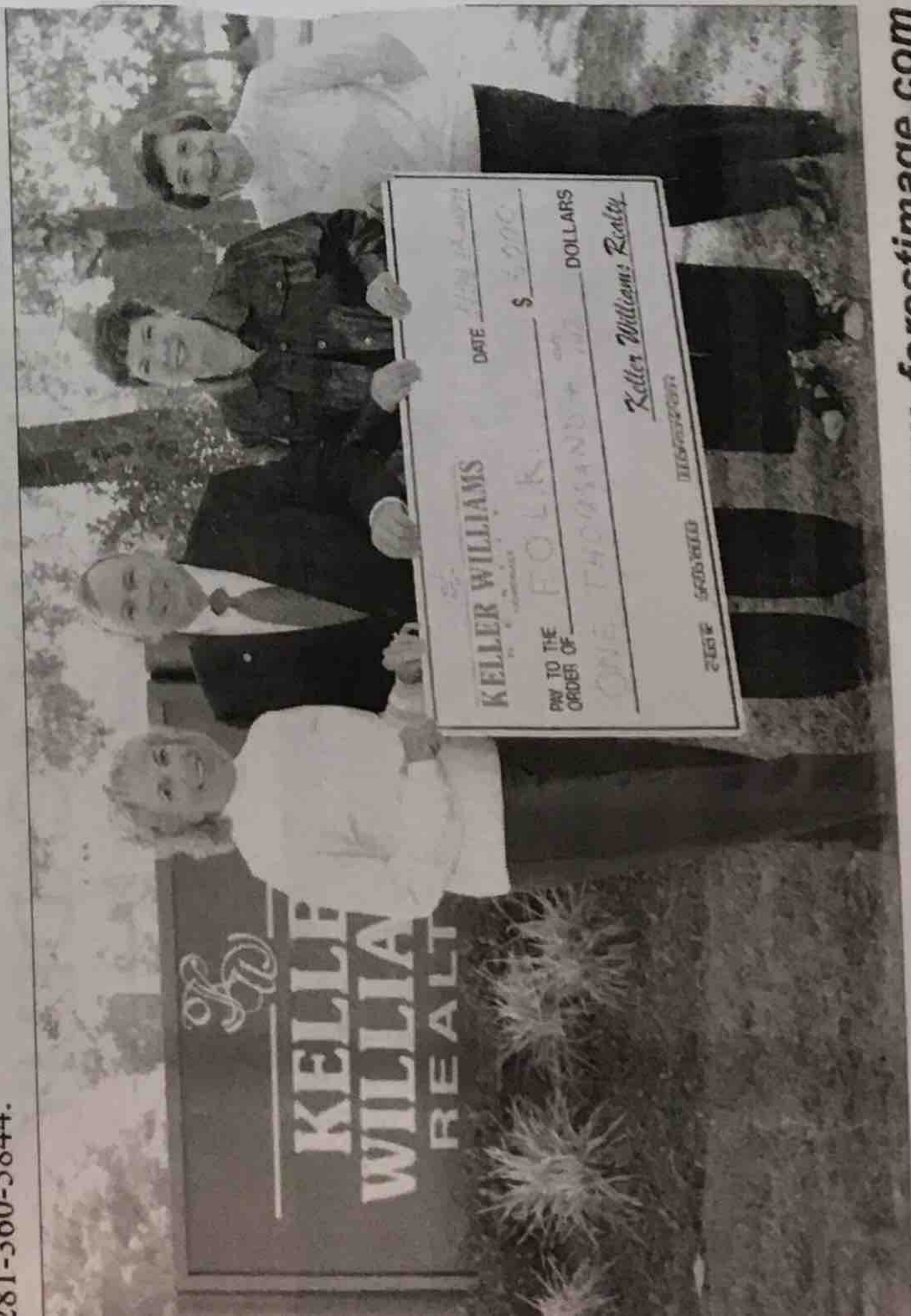
WEDNESDAY
January 6, 2010
Vol. 33, No. 1

Keller Williams Supports Library

Keller Williams Realty Northeast Co-Owners Mark Heinrich and Judy Hopkins (center) donated \$1,000 to Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) New Library Fund raising Campaign to use toward the general fund to enhance the new building opening in 2010. Accepting the check are: Connie Jaeger, FOLK special projects (on left), and Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK president (pictured right).

Because it is the holiday season and the end of the year, FOLK would like to remind everyone that they have the opportunity to make a lasting contribution in the tradition of community spirit and commitment. Define an area, honor an individual with a donor bookplate, purchase an engraved paver in your name or someone else's or designate a special gift and you will enhance the surroundings of the new Kingwood Branch Library. For details regarding the purchase of a BOOKPLATE, ENGRAVED PAVERS or other LEVELS of contributions, call Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261 or Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844.

Photo by Pat and Ray's Studio



KELLER WILLIAMS SUPPORTS NEW LIBRARY



Submitted photo

Keller Williams Realty Northeast co-owners Mark Heinrich and Judy Hopkins, center, donated \$1,000 to the Friends of the Library Kingwood's New Library Fundraising Campaign. The money will go toward the general fund to enhance the new Kingwood library building opening in 2010. Accepting the check are Connie Jaeger, FOLK special projects, left, and Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK president.

KINGWOOD The Tribune

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 2010

THE TRIBUNE
- KINGWOOD
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 6, 2010
SECTION B

KELLER WILLIAMS SUPPORTS NEW LIBRARY



KELLER WILLIAMS
NORTHEAST

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

DATE NOV 18 2009
\$ 1,000

FOLK
ONE THOUSAND + 00 DOLLARS

Judy Hopkins
Keller Williams Realty

Keller Williams Realty Northeast co-owners Mark Heinrich and Judy Hopkins (center) donated \$1,000 to Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) new library fundraising campaign. The money will go towards the general fund to enhance the new Kingwood library building opening in 2010. Accepting the check are: Connie Jaeger, FOLK special projects (on left), and Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK president.

NEW KINGWOOD LIBRARY OFFERS MORE TO COMMUNITY

By **STEPHANIE MEZA**
Tribune Correspondent

Construction of Kingwood's new library is complete and is tentatively set to open in April. The placement of interior, books, shelving and furniture is currently in progress. The building, approximately 30,000 square feet, is more than double the size of the current library.

The new library will be a positive improvement, said Jim Johnson, assistant librarian of the Kingwood Branch Library.

"Public libraries are less like traditional libraries; they're becoming community centers," said Johnson. "[The library] is not just a place to get books."

Among the library's features are study rooms, a computer training lab, a gaming room equipped with four Play Station 3 consoles and four HDTVs, a quiet room, and the FOLK bookstore.

The bookstore is 18-feet by 20-feet and will be open nearly the same hours as the library and seven days a week.

"Because of the community's quality and quantity of donations, the bookshelves will be full of books needed by everyone and still at bargain prices," said Frances Pelham, FOLK board member. "We have expanded the space of FOLK's daily book sales at the current library in lieu of quarterly book sales. "We will need a lot of volunteers to man The Bookstore for all FOLKs."

Open hours have not yet been determined but are expected to increase significantly and may include Sunday afternoons. The library is accepting donations to support the new building, which is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. To volunteer at the bookstore, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org.

The Tribune

KINGWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010

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CITY OF HOUSTON HANDS OVER NEW KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY TO HARRIS COUNTY



City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan and Harris County Commissioner Jerry Eversole will be hosting a public ceremony on Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. to celebrate the turning over of the new Kingwood Branch Library from the city to the county.



Sullivan



Eversole

The City of Houston built the \$8 million, 30,000-square-foot LEED certified building, and Harris County will be in charge of its daily operations.

The new facility will accommodate 400 occupants and consist of a meeting room, children's activity room, conference room and four small study rooms. The public will also have access to 107 computers and laptops for their use.

The Kingwood Area Republican Women's Club donated Texas and United States flags that will be flown outside of the new library. Sullivan will present the flags to the parents of active military soldiers from the Kingwood community.

A grand opening ceremony for the new library will be held April 19 at 10 a.m., and will be open to the public. For more information, please contact Mike Sullivan's office at 832-393-3008 or by e-mail at districte@cityofhouston.net.

★ KINGWOOD ★
THE OBSERVER

Find the latest local news, sports and more at www.thekingwoodobserver.com



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Rhoda Goldberg, left shakes hands with Dr. Rhea Lawson after receiving the key to the new library during the special ceremony Jan. 28.

City of Houston turns over key to new library to Harris County



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

From left, Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Jerry Eversole, Director of the Harris County Public Library System Rhoda Goldberg, City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan, Director of Libraries for the Houston Public Library System Dr. Rhea Lawson, Director of Parks Joe Turner and Director of the City of Houston General Services Department Issa Dadoush celebrate the turning over of the key to the new Kingwood Library by the city of Houston to Harris County.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

media room, private study rooms and a children's activity area.

The upstairs portion of the library is devoted to adults and teens while the bottom floor will be where the children's books and activities will take place.

The new location will allow for the library's collection books to expand by 30 percent, from 100,000 to 130,000 volumes.

"It is always a pleasure to be a part of a process that brings access to information and resources to a community. We are very happy to be here and to work as a partner with the Harris County Public Library Sys-

tem," Dr. Rhea Lawson, director of libraries for the Houston Public Library System, said.

Another unique feature of the new library will be a special area for the Friends of the Library-Kingwood in which to set up used books which are available for sale.

The new building will also be Leadership in Energy and Envi-



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Kingwood resident Lib Gilreath prepares to hoist the American flag with the help of Council Member Mike Sullivan at the key ceremony at the new Kingwood Library Jan. 28. Gilreath was selected to help raise both the American and Texas flags at the entrance to the facility in honor of her son who is currently serving in the military.

ronmental Design rated and is designed to achieve the LEED silver certification.

The LEED rating protects over half of the site from being developed. The building will have low-flow water fixtures, natural light filtering through the building and a variety of other energy-efficient measures.

"We are just delighted to take formal possession of this beautiful building. This is a building we are going to treasure and we are very excited to bring more of our services to the people of Kingwood," Rhoda Goldberg, director of the Harris County Public Library System, said.

After the key to the new library was handed to Goldberg by Lawson, Sullivan, who was joined by Kingwood resident Lib Gilreath, raised the U.S. and Texas flags at the entrance into the library parking lot.

The flags were donated by the Kingwood Area Republican Women, and Gilreath was

asked to raise the flags in honor of her son, Philip, who is currently serving in the military overseas.

"It is very exciting and great to watch how the building started from nothing and has changed into a beautiful building. We all love it. It is very appropriate for Kingwood; it will blow everyone away," Christi Whittington, Kingwood branch librarian, said.

There will be a large grand opening celebration at the new Kingwood Library location, 4400 Bens View Lane, April 19 at 10 a.m. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

Kingwood Branch Library Prepares for Grand Opening

A special ceremony transferring responsibility for the new Kingwood Branch Library building from the city of Houston to Harris County was held on Jan. 28. Rhoda Goldberg, director of the Harris County Public Library system, accepted the key to the building from Dr. Rhea Lawson. U.S. and Texas flags, donated by the Kingwood Area Republican Women, were also raised at the ceremony.

Built by the city of Houston and now operated by Harris County, the \$8 million, 30,000-square-foot facility includes a teen media room, private study rooms and a children's activity area. The new location has also made it possible to expand the library's collection of books by 30 percent to approximately 130,000 volumes. Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) will also operate a used bookstore in the new building during business hours.

A grand opening celebration has been planned for April 19.



The Forest Image, FEB-MAR 2010, page 42

www.forestimage.com

The Tribune

KINGWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010

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Pictured from left: Betty Newton, Alice Rekeweg, Christi Whittington, Carolyn Humphrey, Halene Crossman, Nancy Fulton and Skippy Lupton

Kingwood Area Republican Women present books to Kingwood library

BY KATHY PARKS

The Tribune

For many years, members of Kingwood Area Republican Women have donated books to Kingwood Library as part of

their ongoing commitment to literacy. In 1961, the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) established the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project as a memorial honoring our former First Lady. In 1992, tapes and

videos were added to the book list. NFRW also promotes literacy through the Barbara Bush Literacy Library Project. As part of the club's Diamonds and Pearls 30th anniversary celebration, several community leaders, including City

Council Member Mike Sullivan, Humble ISD Superintendent Guy Sconzo, Congressman Ted Poe and State Senator Tommy Williams, autographed the books that were donated to the library in their honor.

Kingwood Library one step closer to opening



Harris County and the City of Houston unveil the new Kingwood library facility at a "passing of the key" ceremony on Jan. 28. The City of Houston has completed the engineering and building of the facility and Harris County will run the library. From left are: Harris County Commissioner Jerry Eversole, Harris County Public Library Director Rhoda Goldberg, City of Houston Councilman Mike Sullivan, City of Houston Library Director Rhea Brown Lawson, Harris County Parks Director Joe Turner, and City of Houston General Services Department Issa Dadoush.

By KATHY PARKS
AND ANNE McILHANY

The Tribune

The much-anticipated grand opening of Kingwood's new library is scheduled for Monday, April 19, but the first step along the way, the passing of a symbolic key to the library, took place on Jan. 28. The event included speeches by City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan, Harris County Commissioner Jerry Eversole, City of Houston Library Director Rhea Brown Lawson, and Harris County Public Library Director Rhoda Goldberg.

Issa Dadoush, City of Houston Director of General Services, made opening remarks, led the tour and introduced the numerous dignitaries present.

"The community will benefit from this wonderful new facility for years and years to come," said Sullivan. "It is an example of how the city and county can work together for the benefit of our mutual constituents. Commissioner Eversole, the library system, and I worked very hard on this project since early in my first term as a council member."

The 30,000-square-foot LEED-certified facility is the largest single library in the city's system, aside from the main library branch downtown. It is more than double the size of Kingwood's current library.

The new facility will have capacity for 400 occupants and boasts of a meeting room, computer training lab, a gaming room, children's activity room, young adult area, conference room, study rooms and the FOLK bookstore. Other amenities include 107 computers and laptops for patron's use.

The facility includes a drive-through book drop and a preferred parking space for fuel-efficient vehicles only. Though it will take time to get the tables and book shelves moved into the space, guests who took the tour of the building previewed the expansive space. Upstairs, the large, vaulted room was filled with light from skylight windows and ceiling-to-floor windows that lookout onto treetops for a park-like view. Walls were painted pale green and lighting was modern and inviting.

The project came at a cost of \$6.8 million, plus the cost of the land.

During the ceremony, Sullivan presented Texas and United States flags for the library, donated by the Kingwood Area Republican



The new library is set in a park-like area and will feature expansive spaces and plenty of natural light.

military soldiers from the Kingwood community.

"There is more excitement about the new library than anything in recent memory. Not only does Kingwood benefit, but so does northeast Harris County," said Sullivan.

Eversole said he remembered the discussion with City of Houston Mayor Bill White, who did not want to build something larger than 20,000-square feet. He said he couldn't imagine managing with less than 40,000-square feet.

"I feel like we won with 30,000," said Eversole.

Lawson said it was a pleasure to be part of the process. She called the building "a fabulous facility."

Joe Turner, a resident of Kingwood for 26 years and Harris County Parks director, announced that, after the transition is made to the new library, the old library building will become a community center. Renovations will be made, and the engineering of those renovations is 50 percent complete.

A grand opening ceremony for the new library, located at 4400 Bens View Lane, is planned for April 19 at 10 a.m. The grand opening will be the first day the library is open to the general public. For more information, visit www.hepl.net/location/kingwood-branch-library.



Houston City Councilman Mike Sullivan presented Texas and United States flags to parents of active military soldiers from Kingwood. Lib Gilreath's son is a First Lt. Phillip Gilreath, who has been deployed in Afghanistan. From left are: Gilreath, Sullivan, Christy Whittington of the Harris County Library-Kingwood, and Harris County Commissioner Jerry Eversole. Photos by Kathy Parks

KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY



JERRY BAKER PHOTOS: FOR THE CHRONICLE

GRAND OPENING: Addie Wiseman, former City of Houston councilwoman, speaks during the April 19 grand opening of the Kingwood Branch Library. At bottom left is Houston Mayor Annise Parker. The library is located 4400 Bens View Lane. All library programs are free and open to the public. For more information about the library, go to www.hcpl.net/location/kingwood-branch-library.

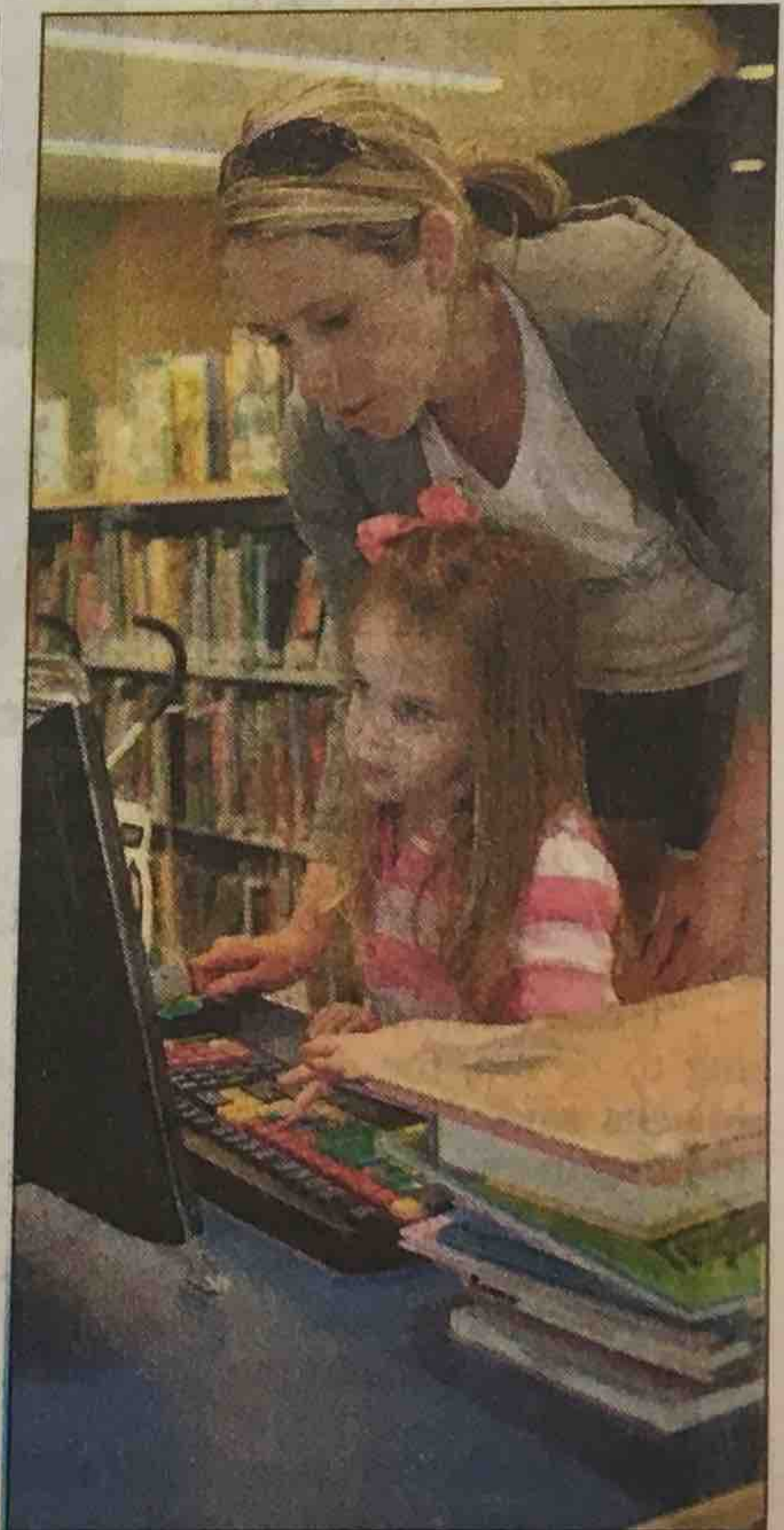
Sunday, April 25, 2010

HOUSTON CHRONICLE Z2: Page 3

★★★



LOTS OF CHOICES: Lisa Kijewski of Kingwood checks out a cookbook in the adult reference section of the new Kingwood Branch Library.



MADE FOR CHILDREN: Kingwood residents Tracee Studdert and her daughter Brooklyn, 3, check out one of the computers in the children's area of the new Kingwood Branch Library.

K I N G W O O D

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THE OBSERVER

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Find the latest local news, sports and more at www.thekingwoodobserver.com

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 24, 2010

Vol. 33, No. 8

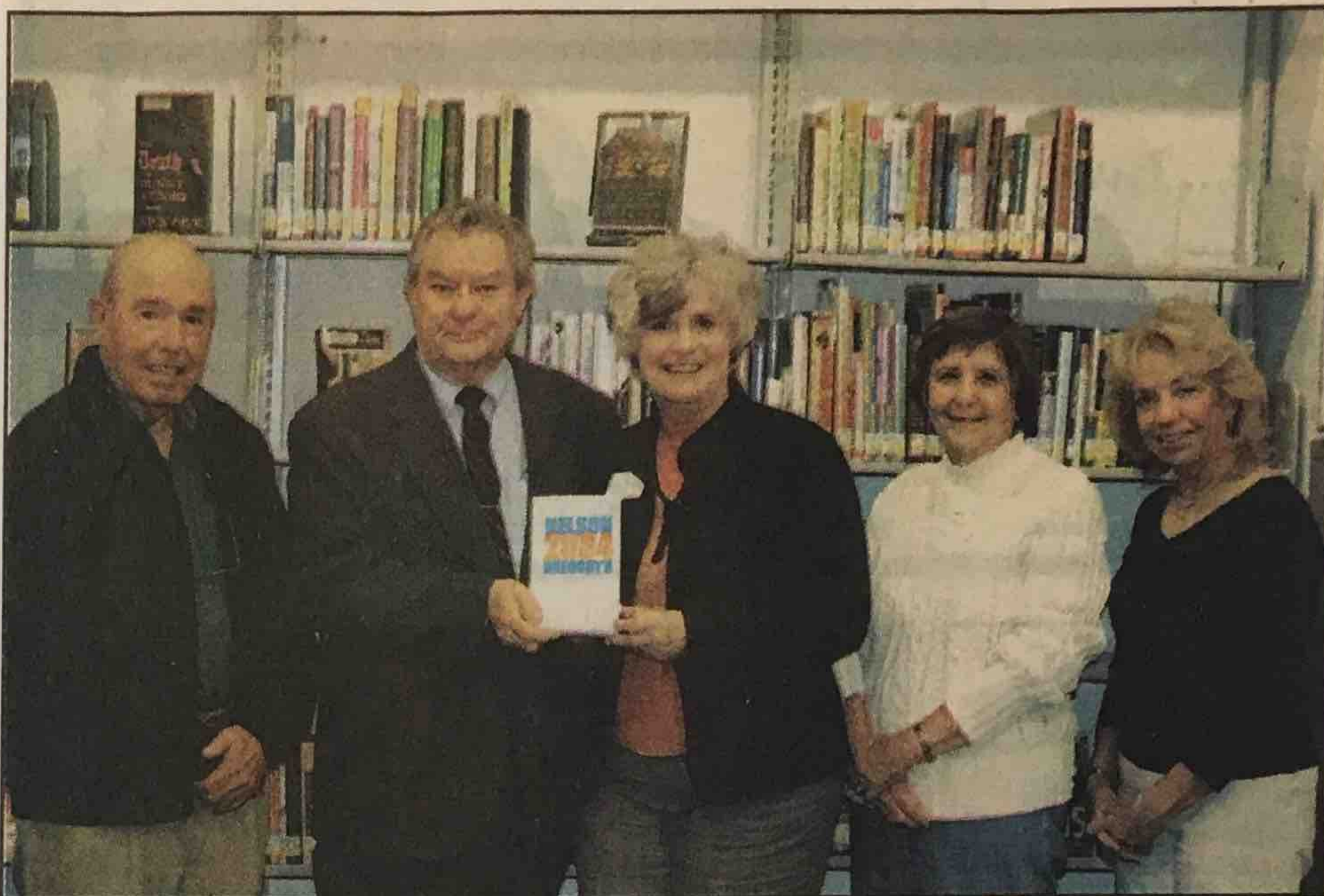


Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Kingwood resident Guy Weismantel, center, with friend W. George Aristides, left; Christi Whittington, Kingwood Branch head librarian; Carolyn Humphrey, president of FOLK; and Connie Jaeger, member of FOLK, donated his first fiction book, "2084," to FOLK to help raise money. For every book that is purchased through CreateSpace division of Amazon, \$2 will be donated to FOLK.

Kingwood resident donates book to FOLK

By JENNIFER SUMMER
jsummer@hcnonline.com

Focusing on over-regulation and encroachment by the government, Kingwood resident Guy Weismantel took a page out of George Orwell's "1984," giving it a new and local spin in his most recent book, "2084."

Written under his pen name Nelson Gregory, this is the first fiction book he has written and it features what will happen in the future based on recent conditions.

Weismantel has written several other books focusing on technical issues, filtration, chemical processes and has worked on various environmental projects, so he uses the pen name to curtail any confusion.

For his book "2084" Weismantel traced three generations of his family name to use as characters in his book and uses landmarks and well-known buildings in Kingwood

as a few of the settings in the book.

"I thought it would be fun to use my own family name to research three generations and use them in the book as a family preparing for the day when the government goes out of control and takes power away from the people," Weismantel said. "It is a realistic view of what could happen in the future when the government interferes and the complications and problems that are associated with it."

The book also includes a true-love relationship between two of the characters and the family's struggle in the future.

In addition to the excitement of the release of his first book, Weismantel donated a copy of "2084" to the Friends of the Library Kingwood and arrangements have been made through the CreateSpace division of Amazon where for each book purchased \$2 is given to FOLK.

"I wanted to find some way to help raise money for FOLK and hopefully a lot of people around the community will purchase the book and enjoy it because it is for a good cause," Weismantel said.

The money raised will help FOLK prepare for the opening of the new library which will include the group's own shop where it can sell gently used books year-round.

For those who purchase "2084," Weismantel will arrange to sign the copy of the book at one of the FOLK meetings.

"I think a lot of people in the community will enjoy this book because it is a realistic view of what could happen if the government took control of everything and it includes places in Kingwood everyone knows," Weismantel said.

For more information about Nelson Gregory's "2084," log on to www.amazon.com/Nelson-Gregorys-2084-Mr-Gregory/dp/061530687X.

DONORS

MAGNOLIA LEVEL \$10,000-\$50,000

Kingwood Area Emergency Medical Services
Kingwood Volunteer fire Department
Wilson and Carolyn Humphrey
Jim and Barbara Williamson

OAK LEVEL - \$1,000- \$5,000

Butch & Margie Standifer
Ron & Juanita Jordan
Nancy Watkins
Dr. & Mrs. Ken Korthauer
Kingwood Women's Club
Lone Star College
Tracy Gibb & Richard Schulabender
Amegy Bank of Texas
Main Street Bank
Robert & Joan Hayes
Administaff
Deck, Linda & Emily Travis
The Enclave
J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation

OAK LEVEL - \$1,000- \$5,000

Kingwood Alumnae Assoc. Kappa Kappa Gamma
Byron & Melva Kelley
James Avery Jewelry
Rick & Dorothy Alspaugh
Edward Jones Company
Tom & Vicki Lyda
Bob & Betsey Birkett
Sybil Nelson
France Pelham
Larry & Connie Jaeger
Mark Heinrich
Judy Hopkins
Mr & Mrs Richard Johle
Paul & Paula Yale
Larry & Jan Shyrock
Paul & Marianne Lincoln
Chuck & Helen Dugand

SPECIAL THANKS TO :

Catering: Cherrie Ledoux
Flowers: Amy McDonald
Music : Jerry Goodwin & Gene Gowe
Brochure design: Betsy Wight

Friends of the Library Kingwood
invite you to attend a
Reception on

Friday, April 9th, 2010
7:00-9:00 pm

The New Kingwood Library
4400 Ben's View Lane
Kingwood, Texas

R.S.V.P. by March 30,2010 Attire: Business Casual
281-360-5844 or
wchumphrey@kingwoodcable.net

FOLK OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Dear Editor:

The Friends Of the Library would like to thank the community for their patience during our move (with the Kingwood Library) to our new location. FOLK's bookstore is located to the left as you enter the new Kingwood Library's front doors.

The Bookstore for all FOLKS opened on April 19

Continued from page 10

at 10 a.m. with the same bargain price books. And yes, we are now accepting your donations which are the 'bread 'n butter' of FOLK's used book sales' success. Donations are accepted by the volunteers through the front door of the bookstore.

FOLK invites the community to stop by and visit the many patrons who have already frequented the bookstore. You no longer have to wait for three months before viewing donated books.

FOLK's bookstore is open the same hours as the Kingwood Library:

Monday, 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.;
Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.;
Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.;
Friday, 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday,
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; closed
Wednesdays and Sundays.

FOLK members (Memberships start at a mere \$20 annually.) receive a 10 percent discount on all books purchased in the bookstore. And it is not too late honor your family, a family member or friend by purchasing a room and/or paver. All monies raised by FOLK goes to the Kingwood Library.

We look forward to serving you.

**Frances M. Pelham
FOLK**

Harris County Public Library

Kingwood Branch Library

4400 Bens View Lane

Kingwood, Texas

Grand Opening



Monday, April 19, 2010

10:00 AM

FOLK OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Dear Editor:
The Friends Of the Library would like to thank the

Harris County Commissioners Court

County Judge	Ed Emmett
Commissioner, Precinct 1	El Franco Lee
Commissioner, Precinct 2	Sylvia R. Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 3	Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct 4	Jerry Eversole

City of Houston

Mayor	Annise Parker
At Large, Position 1	Stephen C. Costello
At Large, Position 2	Sue Lovell
At Large, Position 3	Melissa Noriega
At Large, Position 4	C.O. "Brad" Bradford
At Large, Position 5	Jolanda "Jo" Jones
District A	Brenda Stardig
District B	Jarvis Johnson
District C	Anne Clutterbuck
District D	Wanda Adams
District E	Mike Sullivan
District F	Al Hoang
District G	Oliver Pennington
District H	Ed Gonzalez
District I	James G. Rodriguez

Harris County Public Library

Director	Rhoda Goldberg
Asst. Director, Technology/Technical Services	Gene Rollins
Asst. Director, Support Services	Ron Lucik
Kingwood Branch Librarian	Christi Whittington

Kingwood Branch Library Building Project

Architect	Kirksey Architecture
General Contractor	SpawGlass
Interior Design	Kirksey Architecture
Graphic Design	Minor Design Group

Program of Events

Welcome & Introductions

Carolyn Humphrey
President of Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK)

Invocation

Dr. Jim Davis
Senior Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood

Speakers

The Honorable Ted Poe
Congressman, District 2

The Honorable Annise Parker
Mayor, City of Houston

The Honorable Mike Sullivan
Council Member, City of Houston, District E

The Honorable Addie Wiseman
Former Council Member, City of Houston, District E


The Honorable Jerry Eversole
Commissioner, Harris County, Precinct 4

Dr. Rhea Brown Lawson
Director, Houston Public Library

Rhoda Goldberg
Director, Harris County Public Library

Reception & Tours

Refreshments provided by FOLK.

 **Jerry Eversole, Commissioner**
Harris County Precinct 4



Kingwood Library prepares for grand opening

By JENNIFER SUMMER
jsummer@hcnonline.com

Since the doors to the old Kingwood Library have been closed for almost a month, the new location is opening its doors with a large celebration for the community.

The grand opening ceremony at the new Kingwood Branch Library April 19 will have a variety of activities for all of the guests, including several visits from area dignitaries including City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan and others.

"We are very excited for the opening of the new location because it will bring different amenities to the community. The young adult area is great and is very interactive," Christi Whittington, branch librarian, said.

Nestled in the trees near the Bens Branch Creek, the \$8 million, 30,000-square-foot facility was built by the city of Houston, and Harris

KINGWOOD

Continued from Page 1A

County will be responsible for daily operations.

Construction on the new library began in December 2008 and the keys were turned over to the Harris County Public Library System Jan. 28. Library employees have worked vigorously ever since then to have everything moved in and ready by the grand opening April 19.

The library will accommodate 400 occupants and has several different meeting rooms for community organizations as well as a teen media room, private study rooms and a children's activity area.

"Friends of the Library Kingwood will have their own shop where they can continuously sell used books. FOLK also recently purchased a Nintendo DS Lite for the teen

room," Whittington added. "We are going to have a lot of new things we have not had in the past because of space."

The upstairs portion of the library is devoted to adults and teens while the bottom floor will be where the children's books and activities will take place. The new location will allow for the library's collection of books to expand by 30 percent, from 100,000 to 130,000 volumes.

"The color scheme throughout the building is very natural, which matches where the library is located. We are looking forward to business as usual," Whittington said.

"We welcome back the public who has been without us for about a month, and we also encourage people in the community who have never been to our library to check us out. We have more parking, more pro-

grams and we are as good as before but better."

The grand opening celebration will be full day of activities:

- 10 to 11 a.m.: Speakers/dignitaries with refreshments in the meeting room
- 10:30 a.m.: Story time in the Children's Activity Room
- 11 a.m.-9 p.m.: Library open for check-out
- 11 a.m.-8 p.m.: Petting zoo with new-tech gadgets in the computer training lab
- 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: Gaming demonstrations in the Teen Media Room
- 2-3 p.m.: Story time in the Children's Activity Room
- 3-9 p.m.: Gaming tournament in the Teen Media Room
- 3-5 p.m.: Sparky the Fire Dog in the Children's Activity Room
- 5 p.m.: Bear Branch Elementary Honor Choir

mentary Honor Choir

■ 6:30 p.m.: SleepyTime story time

■ 7 p.m.: Kingwood High School Choir

■ 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m.: Face painting

The new Kingwood Branch Library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane in Kingwood.

For more information, log on to www.hcpl.lib.tx.us/location/kingwood-branch-library or call 281-360-6804.

BOOKS

Kingwood Library kicks off with grand opening ceremonies



Kingwood welcomes its new library on Monday, April 19 with a variety of children and family-friendly activities, as well as refreshments and tours starting at 10 a.m.

BY CAROLINE GIESE

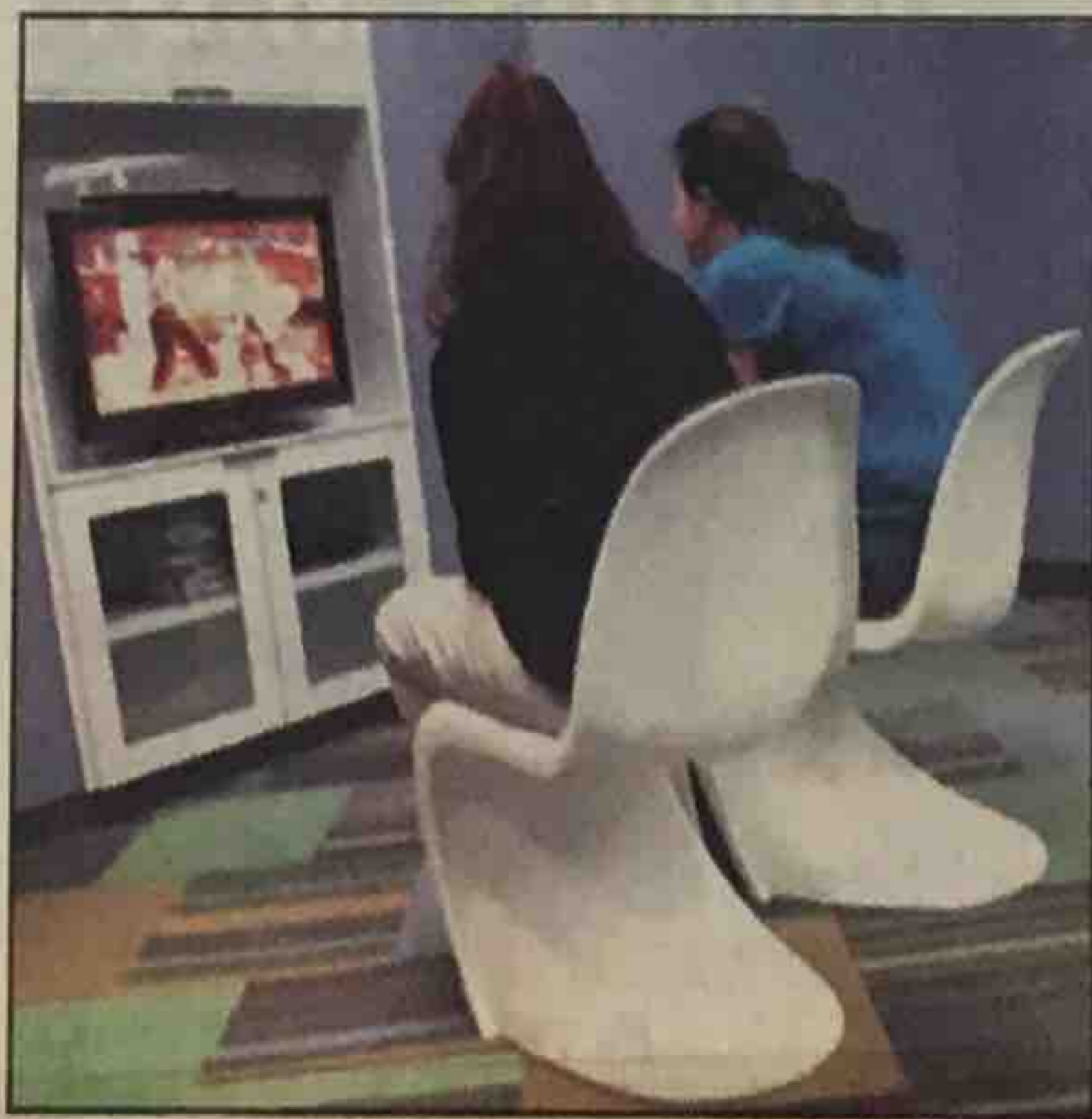
Tribune Intern

The day is almost here for the grand opening of the new Kingwood Library. The anticipation has been given just enough time to bubble up in the community. And now, everyone is ready, including the library staff members who are all still busily at work making sure every detail is perfect for the opening ceremonies which take place Monday, April 19 at the new location at 4400 Bens View Lane.

The grand opening ceremonies will include visits by local dignitaries including City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Precinct 4 Commissioner Jerry Eversole, City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan, former City of Houston Council Member Addie Wiseman, Harris County Public Library Director Rhoda Goldberg and Houston Public Library director Rhea Brown Lawson. The events will kick off at 10 a.m. with Friends of the Library Kingwood president Carolyn Humphreys leading the opening ceremony program and statements from the above dignitaries. There will be tours of the expansive 30,000 square foot library, as well as refreshments along the way.

For those bringing children, story-times in

the library's new state-of-the-art facility will be presented at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. with a "sleepy-time story-time" at 6:30 p.m. The new children's activity room will host Sparky the Fire Dog from 3 - 5 p.m., the Honor Choir from Bear Branch



Gaming demonstrations will be held from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. followed by a Teen Gaming Tournament from 3 - 9 p.m. at the opening ceremony.



Story-times, Sparky the Fire Dog, and face painting will be offered to children attending the grand opening of Kingwood's new library on Monday, April 19.

Elementary School at 5 p.m., and face painting from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and 5 - 9 p.m.

A "technology petting zoo" will be available for attendees to try out different technical devices and receive personal tutorials from library staff. In the teen media room on opening day. Gaming demonstrations will be held from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. followed by a teen gaming tournament from 3 - 9 p.m.

Meanwhile, tours of the library facility and refreshments will be available all day long.

"We are thrilled to welcome our customers from the old library and any and all new customers to this great facility," said branch librarian Christi C. Whittington. The opportunities offered by this state-of-the-art library have us all so excited."

For more information, visit www.hcpl.net/location/kingwood-branch-library.

KINGWOOD

Continued from Page 1A

staff for their hard work and perseverance.

"It is always a pleasure to be a part of a project that is so successful that offers the community a gathering place and a place for children to learn. As with many staffs we have worked with to open libraries, we could not have done it without the Kingwood staff," Dr. Rhea Lawson, director of the Houston Public Library System, said.

The library accommodates 400 occupants and has several different meeting rooms for community organizations as well as a teen media room, private study rooms and a children's activity area.

The upstairs portion of the library is devoted to adults and teens while the bottom floor is where the children's books and activities take place. The new location allows for the library's collection of books to expand by 30 percent, from 100,000 to 130,000 volumes.

"The library in many communities has been the center of education. I tell young people, if you know how to read, you can travel anywhere you want, be anybody you want or have any career you want through books in the library," U.S. Rep. Ted Poe said. "This is a project where the city of Houston worked together with Harris County to make sure this project was a success."

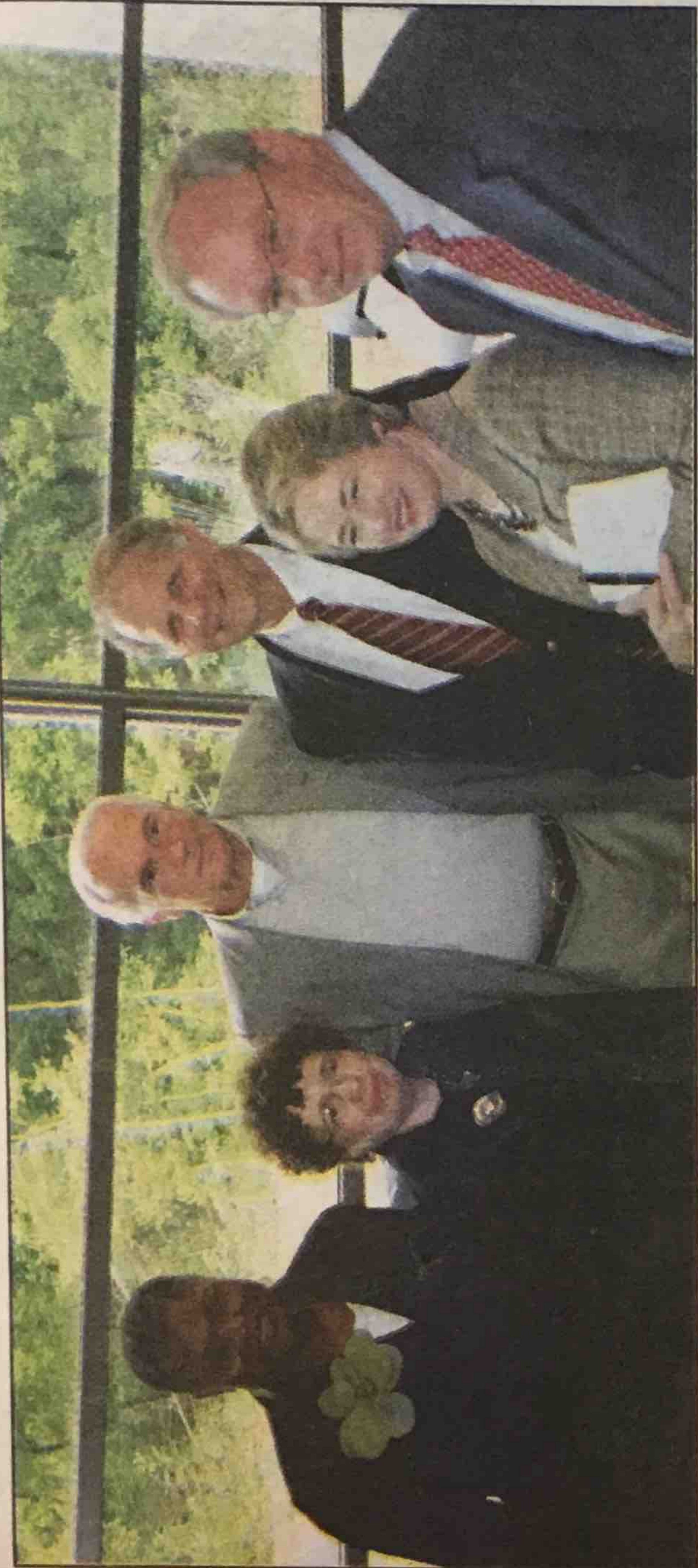
Poe presented a proclamation to the new location of the Kingwood Branch Library and Goldberg, honoring the grand opening ceremony and opening for the community.

Additionally, the new location of the library has several unique features, including a Friends of the Library Kingwood resale shop, teen interactive area, and the building is Leadership in En-

ergy and Environmental Design rated and is designed to achieve the LEED silver certification. The LEED rating protects more than half of the site from being developed. The building will have low-flow water fixtures, natural light filtering through the building and a variety of other energy-efficient measures.

"Knowing how long many of you have been wishing for and looking forward to this project being completed, we are very excited to open the doors. I understand how important libraries are to communities," City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker said. "Libraries are not just about books anymore. They are about electronic media, the Internet and a place where the community comes together and imagination is ignited."

The new Kingwood Library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane in Kingwood. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.lib.tx.us/location/kingwood-branch-library.



From left, director of libraries for the Houston Public Library System Dr. Rhea Lawson, director of the Harris County Public Library System Rhoda Goldberg, Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Jerry Eversole, U.S. Rep. Ted Poe, City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker and City of Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan were on hand to celebrate the opening of the new Kingwood Library April 19.

Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer



Barbara Perez and her son Ysaac check out books for the first time at the new Kingwood Library April 19.

Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Community celebrates Kingwood Library's

BY CRYSTAL SIMMONS

Tribune Correspondent

On April 19, community members flocked to Kingwood Library's grand opening to hear prominent dignitaries speak, visit the technology petting zoo, browse books, view the new media center and go on tours. Refreshments were provided all day by Friends of the Kingwood Library (FOLK.)

"We have tried to blend the traditional library that so many of us have grown up with and love and have fond memories of, with the new technology and new ideas that make the public library and the United States the vibrant and dynamic place that it is," said Harris County Public Library director Rhoda Goldberg.

The 30,000 square-foot library includes 109 public computers, 20 laptops and more than 100,000 items that can be checked out, including books, books on CD, music and DVDs,

according to Goldberg. Other amenities include a teen media center, community meeting room, children's activity room, quiet room and four study rooms.

Other guest speakers included Congressman Ted Poe, Mayor Annise Parker, City Council Member Mike Sullivan, County Commissioner Jerry Eversole and Director of Houston Public Library Dr. Rhea Lawson.

"Libraries aren't just about books," said Parker. "They're about electronic media; they're about the Internet, but they're still a place where communities come together and imaginations are united."

Parker also said the library was certified for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, because the building was constructed using green building materials and methods. During the library's construction, most trees were spared, said Parker. Other green practices include

recycling and providing front-row parking to environmentally friendly vehicles. "There's still a wilderness feel around the library," Parker said.

The activities kicked off at 11 a.m.

Children gathered for story time, got their faces painted and visited Sparky the fire dog.

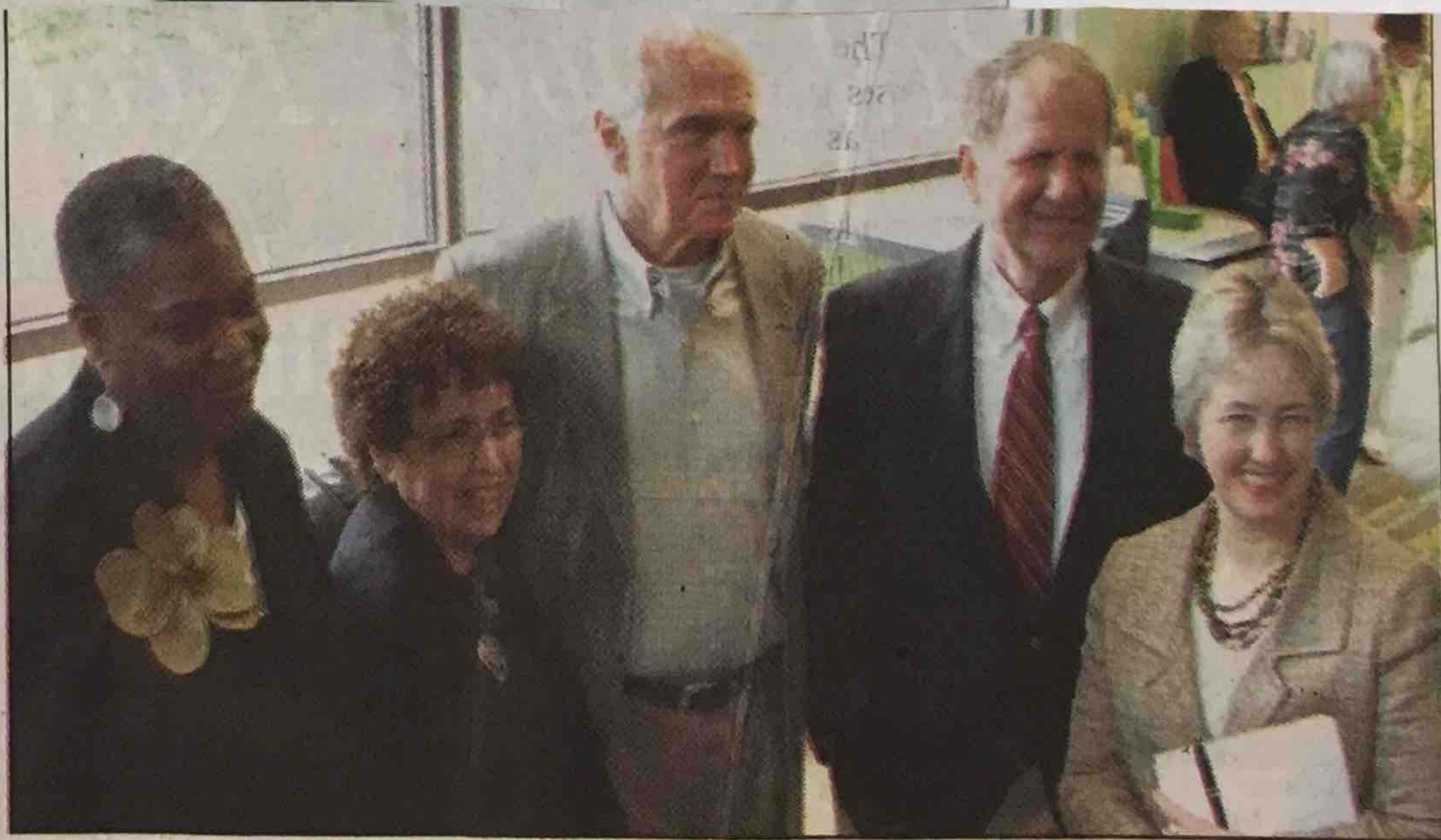
Older kids, teens and young adults participated in gaming demonstrations from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and a gaming tournament on the library's PS3 and a Wii from 3-9 p.m.

"[The library is] beautiful. I like how it's laid out, especially the young-adult section," said Patricia Green, a library volunteer. "They have Wii and PS3 games."

Guided tours were also available throughout the day.

"It's very bright and has a lot more room. There seems to be a bigger selection and newer books," said Jennifer Wehrle.

"I think it's great. It's so roomy and well-organized.



Director of the Houston Public Library Rhea Brown Lawson, Director of the Harris Public Library Rhoda Goldberg, County Commissioner Jerry Eversole, Congressman Ted Poe and Mayor Annise Parker gather after giving speeches. Photos by Crystal Simmons

It looks like it has a lot of resources," said Penny Kemp, who was browsing in the nonfiction section.

The day ended with choir

performances by Bear Branch Elementary Choir at 5 p.m. and Kingwood High School Choir at 7 p.m.

The Kingwood Branch

Library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane in Kingwood. For more information and hours of operation, go to www.hcpl.lib.tx.us/.

BOOKS

COMPUTER CLASSES AT KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY OFFERED

The Kingwood Branch Library, a branch of the Harris County Public Library, is offering computer classes in May. These classes are free and open to the public.

Introduction to Computers: No previous computer knowledge required. This two-hour class will be held on Tuesday, May 4 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. In this class, get familiar with the mouse, learn the basics of the keyboard and discuss computer terms.

Introduction to the Internet: knowledge of keyboarding and using a mouse is preferred but not required.

This two-hour class will be held Tuesday, May 11 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. In this class learn how the Internet works; how to connect to the Internet; and how to search the Web.

Introduction to MS Word: previous knowledge of keyboarding is required. Learn how to use basic MS Word 2007 functions. This two-hour class is scheduled for Monday, May 17 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Catalog Searching: this two-hour class will be held Tuesday, May 18 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Learn how to locate an item in our catalog; determine which branches have the particular item; and how to place a hold on that item.

Facebook/Social Networking: this two-hour class is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. It will teach you how to create a Facebook account, send comments and messages, and recognize spam and other security problems.

Space is limited on these classes and registration is required. Call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 to register or come to the library's second floor to register.





Gabriele Schultz, right, won a prize in the Harris County Public Library's Adult Summer Reading Program. She is pictured with Librarian Christi Whittington, of the Kingwood Branch Library.

Compliments of:
BETTY HORD / RE/MAX
281-358-8888 281-348-3025



Courtesy photo

Information gatherers

Christi Whittington, the Kingwood Library's branch manager, along with members from the Friends of the Library Kingwood recently visited the Barbara Bush Library to gather information that will be helpful as the plans for the new library in Kingwood move forward. A fall groundbreaking is rumored. Pictured, from left, are Connie Jaeger, FOLK's special projects chairperson; Annette Main, Barbara Bush's assistant branch librarian; Carolyn Humphrey, FOLK's president, Whittington; and Nancy Agafieti, branch manager of the Barbara Bush Library.

Compliments of:
BETTY HORD / RE/MAX
281-358-8888 281-348-3025

FOLK opens permanent bookstore in Kingwood Library

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

Upon the opening of the new Kingwood Branch Library, the Friends of the Library Kingwood has replaced the quarterly used book sales with an in-house bookstore, which is open during library business hours.

Patrons are welcome to shop

for bargains in the store located just to the left of the library's main entrance. Prices range from 50 cents to \$3.

Staffed by FOLK volunteers with help from Kingwood Women's Club, the bookstore has books for all ages plus CDs, DVDs, games and magazines. A few slots remain for cashier positions to work two- or three-hour weekly shifts on Fri-

day afternoon and Saturday. To volunteer, contact Kathleen Aten at aten_kathleen@hotmail.com.

Members of the community have donated every item in the bookstore. All proceeds benefit the Kingwood Branch Library directly, providing computers, furnishings, books, DVDs and subscriptions to publications that are not provided by Harris County.

Books (especially non-fiction and children's books), magazines and media items are needed on a continual basis. These tax-deductible donations are accepted throughout the year during library business hours. Due to limited storage, FOLK no longer accepts encyclopedias, National Geographic magazines or any magazines published prior to 2009.

Previously FOLK members were able to preview books prior to the community shopping the quarterly book sales. FOLK members now receive a 10-percent discount on all books purchased in FOLK's bookstore. Memberships start at \$20 per year with all proceeds going to the Kingwood Branch Library. Membership forms are available from the cashier in the

bookstore.

The Kingwood Branch Library and FOLK Bookstore are open Monday, 1 to 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and are closed Wednesday and Sunday.

For more information, call 281-360-6804.

FOLK bookstore offers something for everyone

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Molly Hohen-street with daughter, Kaitlyn, age two, enjoy browsing through the children's books in FOLK's bookstore.

Precinct 4 Update

Jerry Eversole, Harris County Commissioner

Summer 2010

Kingwood Library Opens

“It feels like you’re in a tree house.” That’s the impression Carolyn Humphrey, president of the Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK), gets when she stands on the second floor of the new Kingwood Library. “You look out into a forest of trees through light and airy windows.” Like so many tree houses, the Kingwood Library is full of treasures, waiting to be explored.

The library recently opened the doors to its new location at 4400 Bens View Lane. The 30,000-square-foot library features amenities for all ages. In addition to over 40,000 reference materials and space for over 100,000 books and other materials for circulation, the library features enhanced children’s programs and a children’s activity center, a gaming area set amid a special section for teens, a quiet room, computer lab, and conference room.

“The gaming room is a new concept to Harris County Public Library; one we expect to be very popular,” explains Harris County Public Library Director Rhoda Goldberg. The area is equipped with four TV screens with built-in units containing PS3® and Wii™ gaming systems. Gamers of all ages can do battle with aliens in one of several specially-designed gaming chairs



The Hideout is a teen-only area near the gaming room, a new concept to the Harris County Public Library system. Photo by Jim Johnson

or jump up to play popular games like Rock Band®, Beatles™ Rock Band™, and Guitar Hero®.

The Children’s Library on the first floor will keep kids entertained for hours through an array of children’s programs like story time and craft programs. They can also play interactive educational games on several computers, check out one of several Nintendo DS™ Lite hand-held game systems to play in the library, and learn to trace their ABCs on the library’s tracing table. Residents can access high-speed Internet, and in keeping with 21st-century design principles, nothing is bolted down in the library. “Everything can be moved, giving us the ability to change the layout as technology and

the demand for services changes,” Goldberg says.

Another unique component of the new library is a permanent bookstore, run by FOLK, a nonprofit volunteer organization, which raises funds for the library. Through membership and fund-raising events, FOLK raised \$164,000 for the new library. “Volunteer organizations like FOLK help stretch Harris County dollars and make upgrades possible,” Goldberg says. The bookstore, which is open during library hours, is staffed entirely by volunteers and offers gently used donated books for sale. FOLK also sells used books online through Amazon.com. “We have a fabulous volunteer base,” Humphrey says.

The city of Houston funded the construction of the library, and in addition to providing the staffing, Harris County provided \$2.89 million on library materials, furnishings, and technology. “In addition to serving as a great place to read and study, Harris County libraries serve as social gathering places for people of all ages. They are a critical part of communities and enhance residents’ quality of life,” says Commissioner Jerry Eversole.

For the hours of operation, visit www.hcpl.net/locations/kingwood-branch-library.

TRANSPORTATION

By
AnneKingwood library demolished by city,
new building planned

By KATIE GARRETT

Tribune Intern

The former Kingwood Library has been razed. Demolition took place last week.

Houston City Council has decided that Kingwood's community center will indeed be built in place of the "old" library. Demolition began June 15 and should be completed within 20 days. Upon completion, a new community center will be built and used as a spot to host meetings.

"I am excited to deliver this community center to the community," said Mike Sullivan, Houston City Council member. "There is an obvious need for it; there are no public facilities that have event space or areas for public various functions."

The new community center will include a 13,500 square-foot facility with a large gymnasium-sized room that can seat up to 300 people, and also has the ability to be subdivided by using movable partitions.

Also included will be two smaller activity rooms, a commercial kitchen and a small administrative office. Sullivan opted to demolish and rebuild

rather than remodel. The library was more than 25 years old and had outlived its usefulness. In order to remodel, a total renovation would have had to be done; including new compliance work, extensive plumbing rework and new parking.

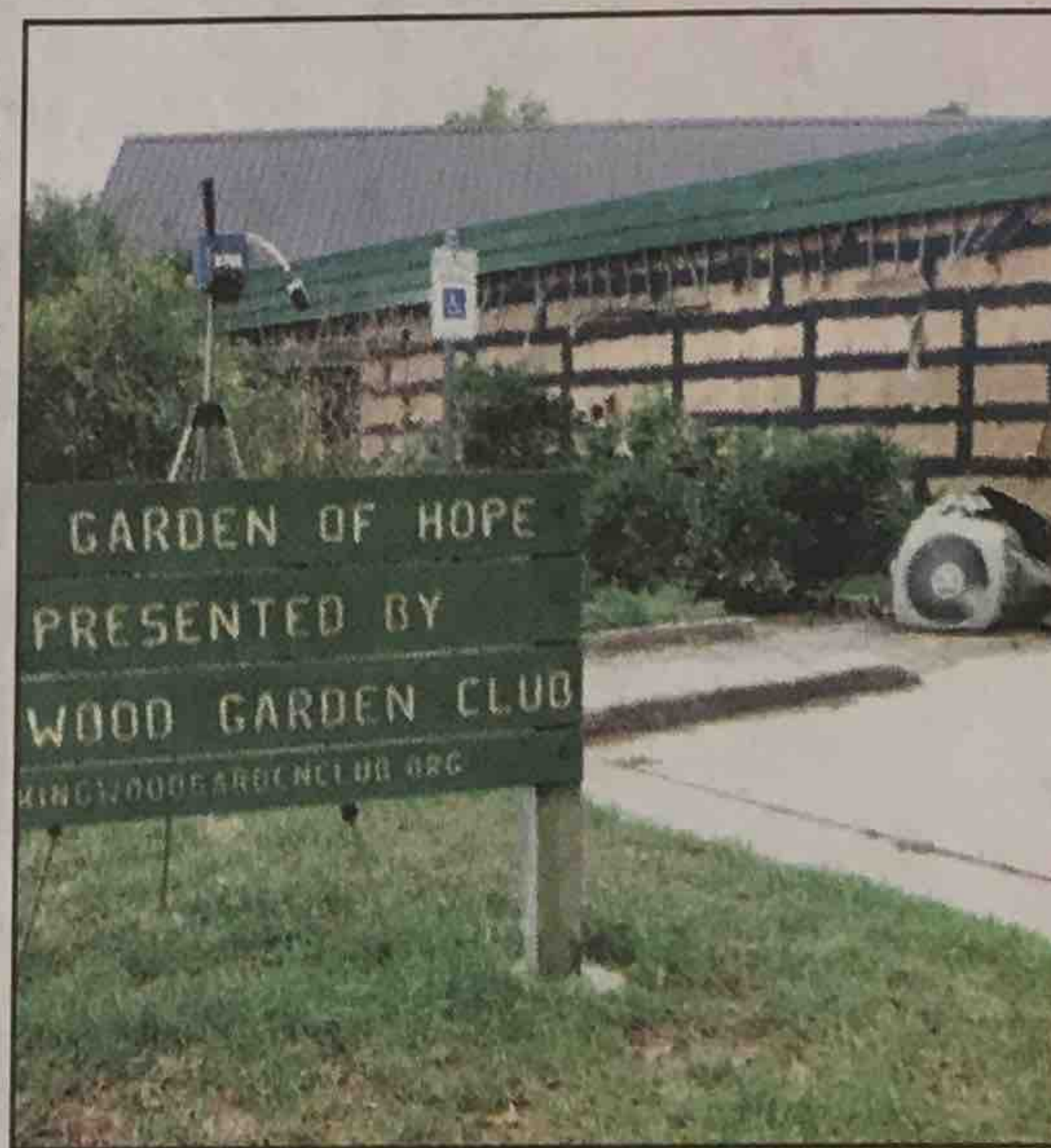
According to Sullivan, a new facility will prove to be more economical to operate, energy efficient, versatile and meet the needs of more people.

"I never intended to renovate the existing building," said Sullivan. "I made it very clear to the public that I was pursuing a path of demolition and construction of an entirely new building that would last for a couple of decades or longer."

The land on which the old library was located was donated to the City of Houston by Jerry Eversole, Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner. This enabled the city to purchase an additional two acres for parking.

Construction costs for the new center is estimated at about \$3.1 million with another \$168,000 for the acreage, and \$32,137 for the demolition costs. The total cost of the new center is estimated to be around \$3.3 million.

Construction of the new center should begin in September of this year and will take approximately 11 - 12 months to complete.



Demolition of the 'old' Kingwood library begins as crews tear down the exterior.

Check It Out!

ATASCOCITA LIBRARY

281-812-2162

19520 Pinehurst Trails Drive

Sun. 1-5 p.m.; Mon., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tues. 1-9 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thu., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri., 1-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

"Babytime" features infant-appropriate story-times, nursery rhymes, and socialization opportunities for children aged infant to 24 months.

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

"Story Pals" invites parents to bring children ages 3 to 6 for relaxing time of songs, storytimes, and occasional crafts.

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

OCTAVIA FIELDS LIBRARY

281-446-3377

1503 South Houston Ave.

Mon., 1-7 p.m.; Tues. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wed. from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Thu., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri., 1-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

"Pre-school Storytime" instills the idea of a healthy body and mind while reading short stories to children ages three to five years.

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

"Toddler Two" encourages the importance of reading to children with "chewy stories" and nursery rhymes for ages 18 months to three years.

Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4400 Bens View Lane

281-360-6804

Mon. 1-9 p.m.; Tues. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Thu. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fri. 1-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

"Toddler Time" entertains children ages 18 months to two years with finger puppet plays and storytimes. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

"Thrilling Thursday" helps entertain children with games and craft activities to off-set the chance of a boring afternoon.

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

"Fabulous Friday at the Movies" brings children of all ages together for a night in Hollywood with a movie viewing.

Fridays, 4 p.m.

All library programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.hcpl.net.

THE TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS - KINGWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2010

MFAH at the Kingwood Branch Library

- Once Upon a Time: Telling Stories Through Clay -

Once Upon a Time: Telling Stories Through Clay will spend 10 weeks at the Kingwood Branch Library from June 21 through August 28 and will feature nine objects from the Garth Clark and Mark Del Vecchio Collection of contemporary ceramics at the MFAH.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston has created the special traveling exhibition, titled Once Upon a Time: Telling Stories Through Clay, to bring original art from the MFAH collection to eight Harris County Public Libraries beginning Sept.

14, 2009 through March 28, 2011.

Library exhibitions bring original art from the MFAH to neighborhoods throughout Harris County. In 1985, the MFAH established this innovative program with the Houston Public Library and expanded it in 1998 to

In addition, the museum provides hosting libraries with buses to bring patrons to the museum for a tour of collection highlights, while the museum also supports the libraries' core mission of literacy by providing free admission on weekends to

any student under 18 with a public library card. If anyone is interested in the library scheduling a tour please contact the Kingwood Branch Library at 281-360-6804 and ask for Adult Services.

The works of art in Once Upon a Time: Telling Stories through Clay are just a handful of the hundreds of works of art from around the world on view every day at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 1001 Bissonnet, Houston, 77005. Free all day every Thursday. Visit or call 713-639-7300 for more information.

Kingwood Library hosts blood drive



Kingwood Branch Library will be hosting a blood drive on Monday, June 21, from 1 to 5 p.m. Staff from the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be on hand to accept

donations from the public. Those interested in donating are encouraged to schedule a time beforehand with library staff, though walk-ins are welcome. All library programs are free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 281-360-6804 or visit the new location at 4400 Bens View Lane.

EDITORIAL / OPINIONS

Accident waiting to happen

Dear Editor:

Kingwood residents were delighted with the recent opening of the Kingwood Branch Library. However, the area right in front of the library parking lot is an accident waiting to happen.

Before the new library was constructed, Bens Branch Drive was a two-way street which curved into Bens View Lane. The construction of the library parking lot at the end of Bens View Lane turned this curve into an intersection. No stop signs were erected for this newly-appointed four-way stop.

I have contacted the DPS, TxDOT, the Mayor of Houston's Office and Councilman Mike Sullivan (who serves Kingwood). Sullivan's office told me that the issue was under "study." Having personally witnessed cars confused about right-of-way almost crashing into each other multiple times, I think putting down stop signs immediately is the obvious answer.

One does not need to study anything to re-

alize that four-way stops need four stop signs. Let's not waste money on study and spend it on action instead.

Christopher Liao
Kingwood

FOLK bookstore offers something for everyone

Upon the opening of the new Kingwood Branch Library, the Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) has replaced the quarterly used book sales with an in-house bookstore, which is open during library business hours. Patrons are welcome to shop for bargains in the store located just to the left of the library's main entrance. Prices range from 50 cents to \$3.

Staffed by FOLK volunteers with help from Kingwood Womens Club, the bookstore has books for all ages plus CDs, DVDs, games and magazines. A few slots remain for cashier positions to work two or three-hour weekly shifts on Friday afternoon and Saturday. To volunteer, contact Kathleen Aten at aten_kathleen@hotmail.com.

Members of the community have donated every item in the bookstore.

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preview books prior to the community shopping the quarterly book sales. FOLK members now receive a 10 percent discount on all books purchased in FOLK's bookstore. Memberships start at \$20/year with all proceeds going to the Kingwood Branch Library. Membership forms are available from the cashier in the bookstore.

The Kingwood Branch Library and FOLK Bookstore are open Monday, 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Wednesday and Sunday. For information call 281-360-6804.



Molly Hohenstreet with daughter Kaitlyn, age two, enjoy browsing through the children's books in FOLK's bookstore.

the community

Texas 77347-4368 or e-mail presidentfplh@live.com.

■ Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) needs donations of used books, especially non-fiction and children's books, for their bookstore at the new Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.

FOLK's acceptable donations: any and all books, text and computer books, 2007 and after; all engineering/petro/chemical books; videos, DVDs, CDs, computer games, audio books, software; music books and sheet music; magazines, comics, puzzles and records.

FOLK's non-acceptable donations: text and computer books 2006 and prior, cassettes, encyclopedias, and magazines 2000 and prior.

dog crates/blankets, cat litter, grooming supplies, cleaning supplies for the shelter and more volunteers. To donate items or get more information, contact Tammy at 816-682-4375. There are dog/cat adoptions at the PetSmart in Humble (behind Chuy's) every Saturday and Sunday.

■ Pal for Pooches, a rescue group, is in greatest need right now of dog food to feed the many dogs in its care. Any donations will be appreciated.

The nonprofit can always use the following: newspapers, garbage bags, bleach, dog crates, dog pens, dog cages, paper towels, spray bottles, heartworm medication, a scale, blankets/sheets/soft rugs, dog toys, towels, dog food, office supplies, dog dishes, dog medications, a small copy machine and a laptop computer.

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FOLK's acceptable donations: any and all books, text and computer books, 2007 and after; all engineering/petro/chemical books; videos, DVDs, CDs, computer games, audio books, software; music books and sheet music; magazines, comics, puzzles and records.

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■ Volunteers for Animal

Give back to the community through FOLK

Since 1978, the Friends Of the Library Kingwood have been committed to raise funds that enable the Kingwood library to be an excellent cultural facility. Enhancements include furnishings, books, DVDs and videos, additional large print books and reference materials. Additionally, FOLK provides many amenities to the library staff to help make their jobs easier.

Opportunities abound to make a lasting contribution to the new Kingwood library in the tradition of community spirit and commitment:

- Shop in the FOLK used bookstore, which provides an awesome selection of books at bargain prices. All money spent in the bookstore benefits the Kingwood library.

- Become a member of FOLK and receive a 10 percent discount on all items

purchased in the store.

- The bookstore has been so successful that there is a continual need for donations, especially cookbooks and travel books. Donate used books, CDs, DVDs and current magazines to be sold in the store. FOLK also operates a highly successful online used book sales program on Amazon, which adds even more value to the generous donations of the community. It's like recycling for profit for the library.

- Donor bookplate recognition allows you to make a lasting memory or honor someone such as a friend, family member or special pet. Purchase a reference book for the library for \$50 or an adult or children's book for \$25.

- Engraved pavers, available for \$150, serve as permanent commemorative icons and enhance the main walkway, front

entrance and garden area. Inscriptions can be two lines with 14 characters per line, including spaces.

- The names of major contributors of \$1,000, \$2,500 and \$5,000 are commemorated on the permanent donor recognition wall in the front lobby.

- Name a room in the library with a contribution of \$10,000-\$50,000. This is a great way to make a long-lasting tribute and publicly honor an individual or a group of contributors. An engraved nameplate will enhance the door of the room.

Drop by the FOLK bookstore, located at the front entrance to the library (4400 Bens View Lane), to pick up more information about ways to give or call 281-360-5844 or 281-360-5261. Gifts to FOLK, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible.

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BOOKS

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19520 Pinehurst Trails Drive

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OCTAVIA FIELDS LIBRARY

281-446-3377
1503 South Houston Ave.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

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KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4400 Bens View Lane
281-360-6804

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

"Toddler Time" entertains children ages 18 months to two years with finger puppet plays

Community libraries offer tons of family fun

By KRISTEN WASHINGTON

Tribune Intern

Check out the library. There is a lot of fun things going on, summer activities for the entire family to enjoy.

The area branches include: Atascocita Branch, located at 19520 Pinehurst Trails Drive; Kingwood Branch Library, located at 4400 Bens View Lane; and Octavia Fields Library in Humble, located at 1503 South Houston.

Although all three branches are under Harris County Public Library system, they all offer different activities.

The Kingwood branch offers many fun events for young children such as:

- "Fabulous Friday at the Movies" every Friday at 2:15 p.m.
- "Toddler Time" every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m.
- "Mysterious Monday" every Monday at 2:15 p.m.

"The Harris County public library system has partnered up with The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and for 10 weeks we will have an art exhibit here at the Library," said Christi Whittington, Kingwood branch librarian. The "Once Upon a Time: Telling Stories Through Clay" exhibit is currently on display through the end of August. The museum also gives patrons the opportunity to

get free passes to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Visit the Kingwood branch for more details.

The Atascocita branch offers several children's activities Monday- Friday such as:

- "Twilight Tales: Family Storytime" every Monday night at 7 p.m.
- "Tales for Tots and Babytime" every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- "Scenes and Screens for Teens" every Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Another program for teens at the Atascocita branch is July 15 at 3:00 p.m., the "Clay Day" program where teens can create objects, such as old-world pendants, anime-style cupcakes, or anything else they can envision from polymer clay. Teens must sign up in the library to attend this program.

The Octavia Fields branch also provides great summer events for children and teens:

- Pre-School story time every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- Teen movie every other Tuesday and 2:30 p.m.
- Houston Zoomobile

July 27

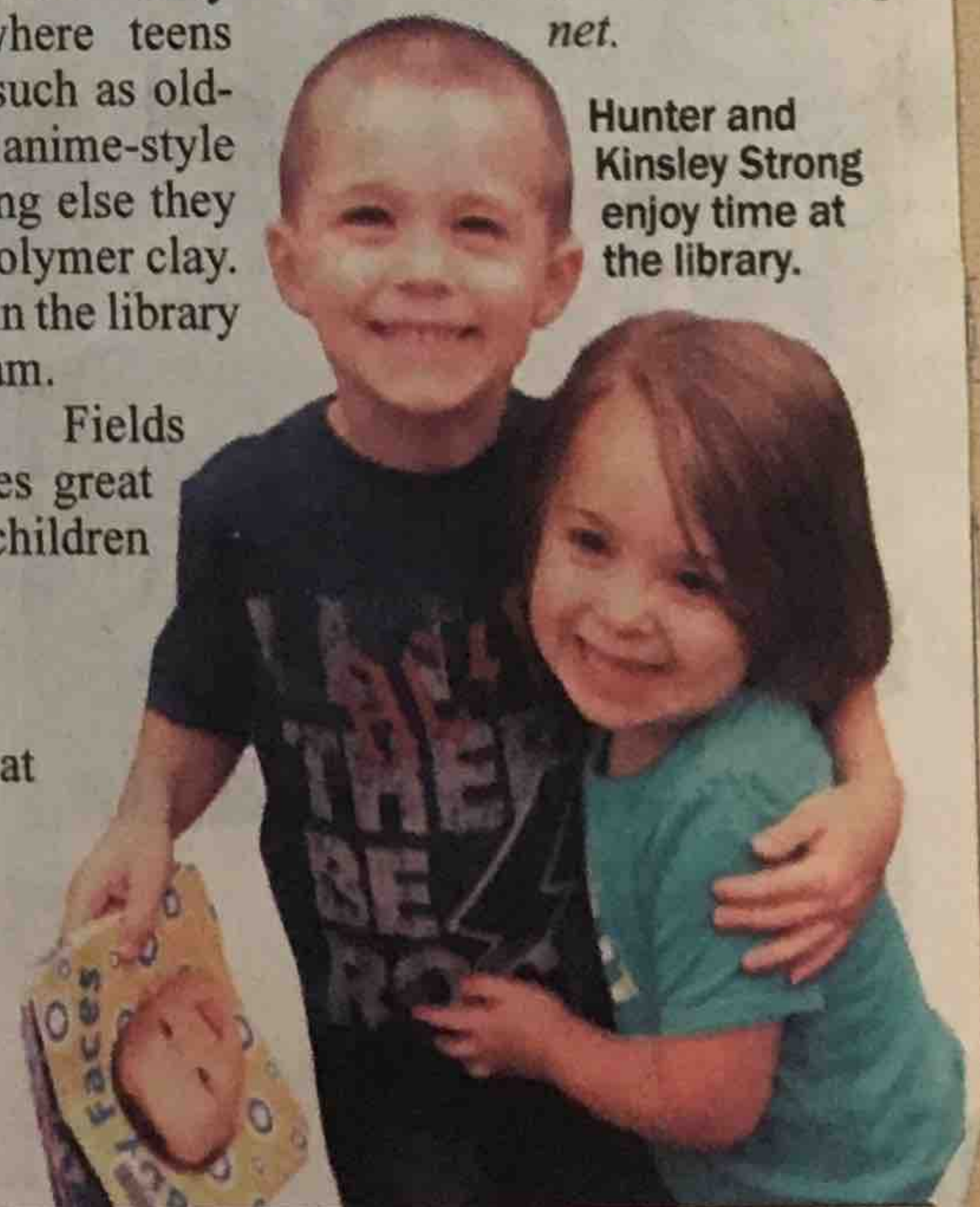
The libraries also provide summer reading programs.

"This year, as in the past couple of years, our Summer Reading Program not only includes a program for children, but for teens and adults," said Atascocita branch Assistant Librarian Mary Rudrow.

"Generally, when children see older siblings or parents reading, they are more likely to want to read themselves. It's great for the entire family!" she said. Summer reading programs for 2010 can be registered for through August 7.

For more information about summer activities or to register online, visit www.hcpl.net.

Hunter and Kinsley Strong enjoy time at the library.



★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

WWW.THEKINGWOODOBSERVER.COM

JULY 14, 2010

New library offers more resources for the m

By ARIANNA AUBER
ointern2@hcnonline.com

The new Kingwood Branch Library has been thriving since its grand opening almost three months ago despite cut hours and a lack of additional librarians to staff the larger building.

"The parking lot is full almost all the time," said Christi Whittington, branch librarian. "The people who have always used us have told people who didn't to come check us out. Our circulation is sky high."

The study rooms upstairs are booked often, as is the conference room, said Whittington.

All kinds of people, from a grandmother reading to her granddaughter to college students home for the summer, can be found perusing the shelves.

One such person is Zora Fisher, who thinks that the new library is an improvement over the old one.

"I went to the library for 20 years, ever since we moved here, and it was more like a high school library than any-

thing. So coming here, it's just awesome," she said.

Another library-goer is Sara Hays, a mother who loves the new children's section because it offers computers just for the kids. Her only complaint is the hours the library is open.

It is a complaint shared by many patrons. The library is closed Wednesday and Sunday when it was previously closed only on Sunday.

But as soon as the economy rebounds, the library will not only open on Wednesdays, said Whittington, but will also ex-

and hours on the other days.

The library will also hire more librarians at that time. Due to a hiring freeze established by Harris County, it was not able to add new positions when it was first opening.

Even with these temporary shortcomings, the response to the new, larger library has been overwhelmingly positive, said Whittington.

FOLK BOOKSTORE

Also successful is the Friends

See LIBRARY, Page 5A



Photo by ARIANNA AUBER/

Kristie Felan is a second-grade teacher at Pine Forest Elementary School. She spends time with her boys at the Kingwood Library.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 5A

of the Library Kingwood's bookstore at the front of the library, which raises money for the library through selling donated books from the community at prices that range from 50 cents to \$5.

A new addition to the library, the bookstore offers gift certificates as well as the service of book requests, which the store is able to fulfill once it has received the desired book.

"The patrons are so amazed and pleased when they get a call telling them that their book request has been donated," said Frances Pelham, used book sales chairperson for FOLK.

The bookstore is so popular that some patrons stop by daily so that they don't miss out on any newly donated books, Pelham said.

Books of all genres are accepted, but particularly popular are cookbooks and travel books. The store has a shortage of both genres.

A back-to-school sale the week of Aug. 16 means that the store will also need more classics, literature and children's books.

This sale will not only be aimed at students but teachers as well, who can buy teacher assistance guides and activity books.

ONLINE RESOURCE

One growing addition to the library not being utilized as much as it could be, said Whittington, is the Digital Media Catalog on the library website.

It allows patrons to download eBooks or audiobooks, as well as non-copyrighted music and video, for two weeks. Once the two weeks are up, the file disappears off of whatever device it is accessed on.

"If the library doesn't have a book, or the book is checked out, the downloadable digital media is a good way to get it," said Whittington.

The selection of books offered through the Digital Media Catalog will continue to grow with time as more books are purchased.

The many other services offered by the library, flourishing despite the state of the economy, will also continue to grow with time, Whittington said, promising more books for the shelves in the future.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

All programs at the library are free and open to the public.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Tom's Snakes
July 15, 2:15 p.m.
Free tickets.

■ "The Dog Who Sang Opera" with Sandra Campbell

July 22, 2:15 p.m.
Free tickets.

■ Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 2:15 p.m.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies
Fridays, 2:15 p.m.

TEEN PROGRAMS

■ Video gaming
Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.

All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your

skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:

* Searching the HCPL Databases
Tuesday, July 20, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Access a wealth of information from online databases. Learn how to research for business, academic or personal knowledge.

* Introduction to MS Word
Tuesday, July 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Previous knowledge of keyboarding is required. Learn how to use basic MS Word 2007 functions.

Space is limited on these classes and registration is required. Call the library's Adult Services Department at

281-360-6804 or come to the library's second floor to register.

■ "Check It Out"

This is a new ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORYTIMES

■ Catch the Reading Express

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

This is a summer read-aloud for school-age children. The program begins June 8 and ends Aug. 3.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BOOK SALE COMING SOON

FOLK's Back-to-School Sale plans are in place for the week of Aug. 16-21. All books will be 50 percent off with the exception of \$3 - \$5 and 50-cent tagged books. FOLK members will receive an extra 10 percent off. Friends Of the Library Kingwood family memberships start at \$20/year. All membership fees and used book sale proceeds go to the Kingwood Library. The timing of the Back-to-School Sale is meant to give families, students and teachers the books they need for the upcoming school year at bargain prices.

Book donations are accepted in the FOLK Used Bookstore during library business hours. Best-selling books are cookbooks; most requested books are travel. In addition to the need for



cookbooks and travel books, FOLK needs children's, young adult, classic/literature and teacher material books to enhance the Back-to-School Sale.

For more happenings of FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org.

The FOLK Used Bookstore is located to the left of the main entrance of the Kingwood Library at 4400 Bens View Lane. Hours are Monday 1 - 9 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Wednesday and Sunday.

FABULOUS FRIDAY COMING TO KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

Children and teenagers of all ages are invited to "Fabulous Friday at the Movies," on Aug. 13, hosted by Kingwood Branch Library, located at 4400 Bens View Lane. The fun begins at 2:15 p.m. and wraps up at 4:15 p.m. This program provides adventure, comedy, mystery and fairytales, all through the courtesy of Hollywood! Check the library to find out what is playing. For more information, call 281-360-6804.



Kingwood Branch Library offers August computer classes

The Kingwood Branch Library, a branch of the Harris County Public Library, is offering computer classes in August. These classes are free and open to the public.

E-MAIL BASICS

Knowledge of keyboarding and using a mouse is preferred but not required. This two-hour class will be held Tuesday, Aug. 3, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Students will learn how to set up a free e-mail account. E-mail is an easy way to keep up with friends and family. Registration is required.

MOVIE MAKER

Create movies and slide shows from photos and videos. This class is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 10, from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Registration is required.

MS PUBLISHER

Learn how to create your own greeting card. This class will be held Tuesday, Aug. 17, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Registration is required.

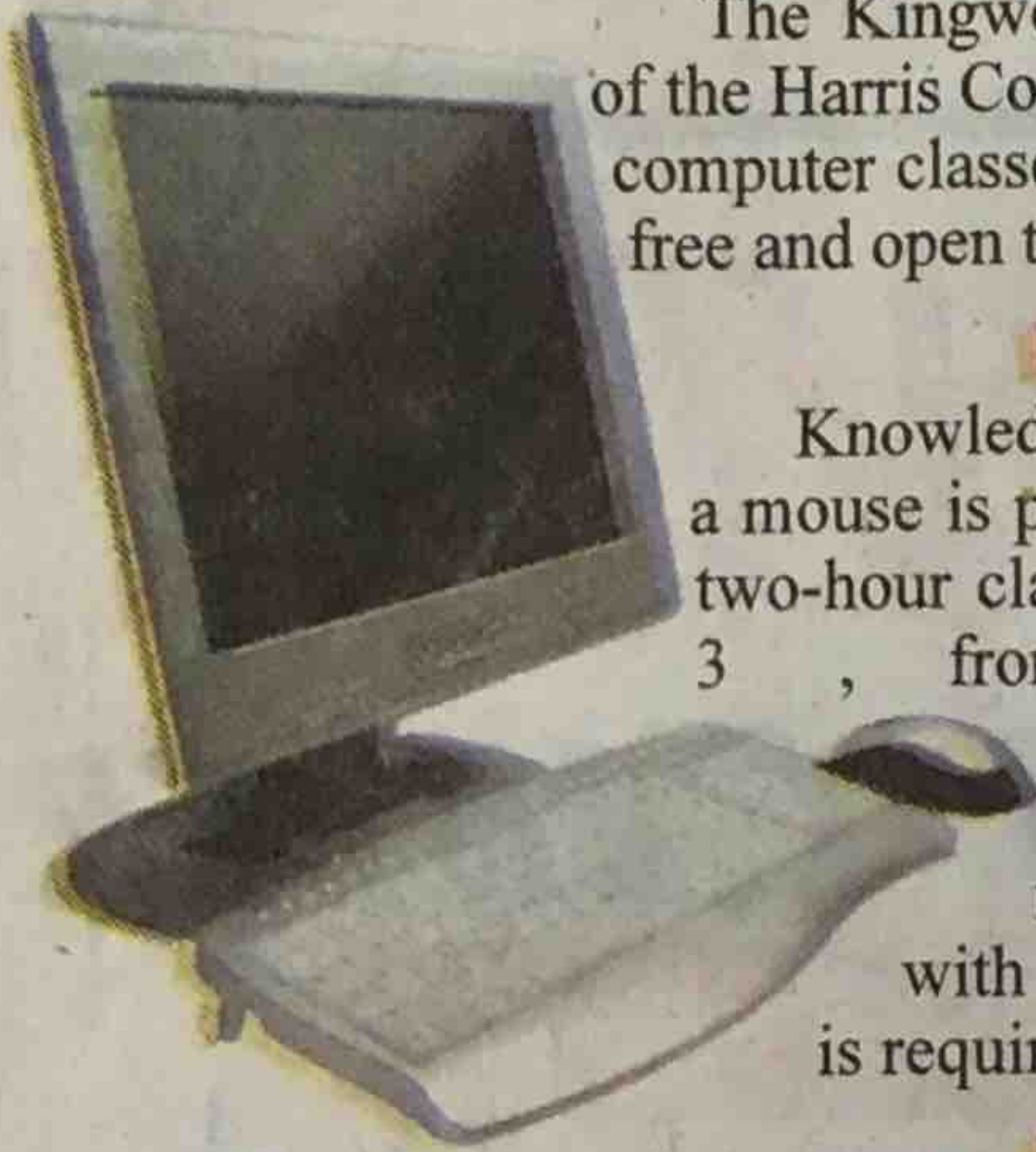
WEB SITES ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS - PART 1

Have you wondered about how to find information especially suited to senior needs? Come and explore a few of the excellent resources available online. This class will be held Tuesday, Aug. 24, from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Registration is required.

USING THE ONLINE CATALOG

Learn how to look up books, DVDs, audiobooks and other media available from the Harris County Public Library. This class will be held Tuesday, Aug. 31, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Space is limited on these classes and registration is required. To register, call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 or go to the library's second floor.



KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call the Kingwood Branch Library at 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

All programs at the library are free and open to the public.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Mysterious Mondays Mondays, 2:15 p.m.
- Fabulous Friday at the Movies Fridays, 2:15 p.m.

TEEN PROGRAMS

- Video gaming Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
- All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Author Presentation Monday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m.
- Author Gayle Wigglesworth will present "Let's Talk Mystery" in the library meeting room. No registration is required.

- Financial Seminar Monday, Aug. 9, 7 p.m.
- This class begins a continuing series of classes about financial markets and institutions. The instructor is Alberto Antenangi, executive director, Investment Bank North America Technology Center of JPMorganChase. No registration is required. The presentation is "Overview of Financial Markets." The class is being held in the library meeting room.

- Evening Book Group Monday, Aug. 16, 7 p.m.
- The group will discuss "Take Big Bites" by Linda Ellerbee. The group will meet in the library conference room on the second floor of the library. No registration is required.

- Knitting Group Saturday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m.
- Join the Yarn It, Darn It group for knitting, crocheting and spinning in the library meeting room. No registration is required.

- Identity Theft Seminar Saturday, Aug. 21, 1 p.m.
- The program will be held in the library meeting room. Learn how to keep personal information safer (e.g., name, Social Security number, credit card numbers, passport). No registration is required.

- Financial Seminar Monday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m.
- This is the second class in a series of financial seminars about financial markets and institutions. This presentation is "How the Fed Works." The class is being held in the library meeting room. No registration is required.

- Blood Drive Monday, Aug. 30, 1-5:30 p.m.
- The library is hosting the Gulf Coast Regional Blood

Bank for a blood drive. The drive will be held in the library meeting room. Please see Adult Services to register for a time slot to donate.

- The library is offering the following computer classes:

- * E-mail Basics Tuesday, Aug. 3, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Knowledge of keyboarding and using a mouse is preferred but not required. Participants will learn how to set up a free e-mail account. E-mail is an easy way to keep up with friends and family.

- * Movie Maker Tuesday, Aug. 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Create movies and slide shows from your photos and videos.

- * MS Publisher Tuesday, Aug. 17, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Learn how to create your own greeting card.

- * Websites Especially for Seniors - Part 1

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Have you wondered about how to find information especially suited to senior needs? Come and explore a few of the excellent resources available online.

- * Using the Online Catalog Tuesday, Aug. 31, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Learn how to look up books, DVDs, audiobooks and other media available from the Harris County Public Library System.

Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required. Call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 or come to the library's second floor to register.

- "Check It Out" Tuesday, Aug. 3, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a

book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORYTIMES

- Catch the Reading Express Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

This is a summer read-aloud for school-age children. The program begins June 8 and ends Aug. 3.

- Mother Goose Lapsit Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Sign-ups required. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

- Toddler Time Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

- Preschool Storytime Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. No registration needed.

KARW DONATES BOOKS TO KINGWOOD LIBRARY



Submitted photo

On Friday, Aug. 27, Kingwood Area Republican Women donated 12 books to the Kingwood Branch Library as part of the club's ongoing commitment to literacy. Four are part of the Barbara Bush Literacy Library Project and were selected to honor various speakers the club has welcomed. Eight are a part of the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project and were selected to honor several past presidents of KARW. All of the books showcase Republican values and principles. Standing, from left, are Marian Manchack, Halene Crossman, Skippy Lupton, Christi Whittington (librarian), Betty Newton and Nancy Fulton; seated are Terice Richards, Mary Blanchard and Barbara Jordan.

Book sale success

Dear Editor:

A big thank you goes out to the Kingwood community for patronizing and donating books for FOLK's back-to-school sale. As usual you have made this book sale an awesome success. And the proceeds from the book sale help to subsidize what the county does not have the budget to provide for the Kingwood Library.

Because our back-to-school sale for our teachers and students has been so successful, FOLK's Bookstore at the Kingwood Library is in need of used books, both fiction and non-fiction, and especially cookbooks, travel and children's books.

Donated books may be delivered to the bookstore during library business hours: Monday, 1-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 1-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The library is closed Sunday and Wednesday.

Emily Maas

Friends Of the Library Kingwood

IN YOUR OPINION

THE TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

EDUCATION

The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That

"The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That" is a new show on PBS. To celebrate this new show every branch of Harris County Public Library will be presenting a special story time including a short preview of the show between through Sept. 11.

"The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That" begins airing Monday through Friday on Sept. 6 at 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and Sundays at 6:30 a.m. on Houston PBS.

For more information, visit www.hcpl.net.



and her family."

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The Forest Image, Back to School 2010, page 42

Page 12A, Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, September 22, 2010

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

All programs at the library are free and open to the public.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 2:15 p.m.
- Fabulous Friday at the Movies
Fridays, 2:15 p.m.

TEEN PROGRAMS

- Video gaming
Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
- All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- "Check It Out"

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORYTIMES

- Mother Goose Lapsit
Thursdays, 11 a.m.
Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Sign-ups required. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.
- Toddler Time
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.
Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.
- Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.
Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. No registration needed.



Dragoneers Meet in New Library

The Dragoneers Club holds its first meeting of the school year on Thursday, September 9 at 4:00 p.m. in the new activities room in the children's library on the first floor of the new Kingwood Library.

The Dragoneers Club is a twice-monthly afterschool club for school age children. Each Dragoneer receives a free Tee shirt with the Dragoneer logo on it and a free paperback book featuring a dragon.

There is a little something for everyone in the Dragoneers. The first meeting of the month is a book club with each month having a different theme. Each Dragoneer chooses any book, fiction or nonfiction, that ties in with that theme to tell the rest of the Dragoneers about. For the first meeting on September 9, participants will tell about their favorite book. The other meetings are a mix of speakers, craft projects and other activities.

At each meeting the Dragoneer turns in an attendance sheet with list of books he or she has read since the last meeting. Every four books and three meetings allows the Dragoneer to rise in rank from Varlet, to Page, to Squire, to Knight over the course of one school year. Twice a year Knights are dubbed at special ceremonies and the symbols of rank are awarded.

Children's librarians Connie Dye and Christie Baldwin run the Dragoneers Club, which is funded by the sale of used books in the FOLK Bookstore. The club meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 4400 Bens View Lane. To learn more call the library children's desk at 281-360-6804.

www.forestimage.com

The Tribune

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2010

New Kingwood Library gets hit by 'taggers'

— BMX-graffiti phantom wanted —

BY TRILLA COOK

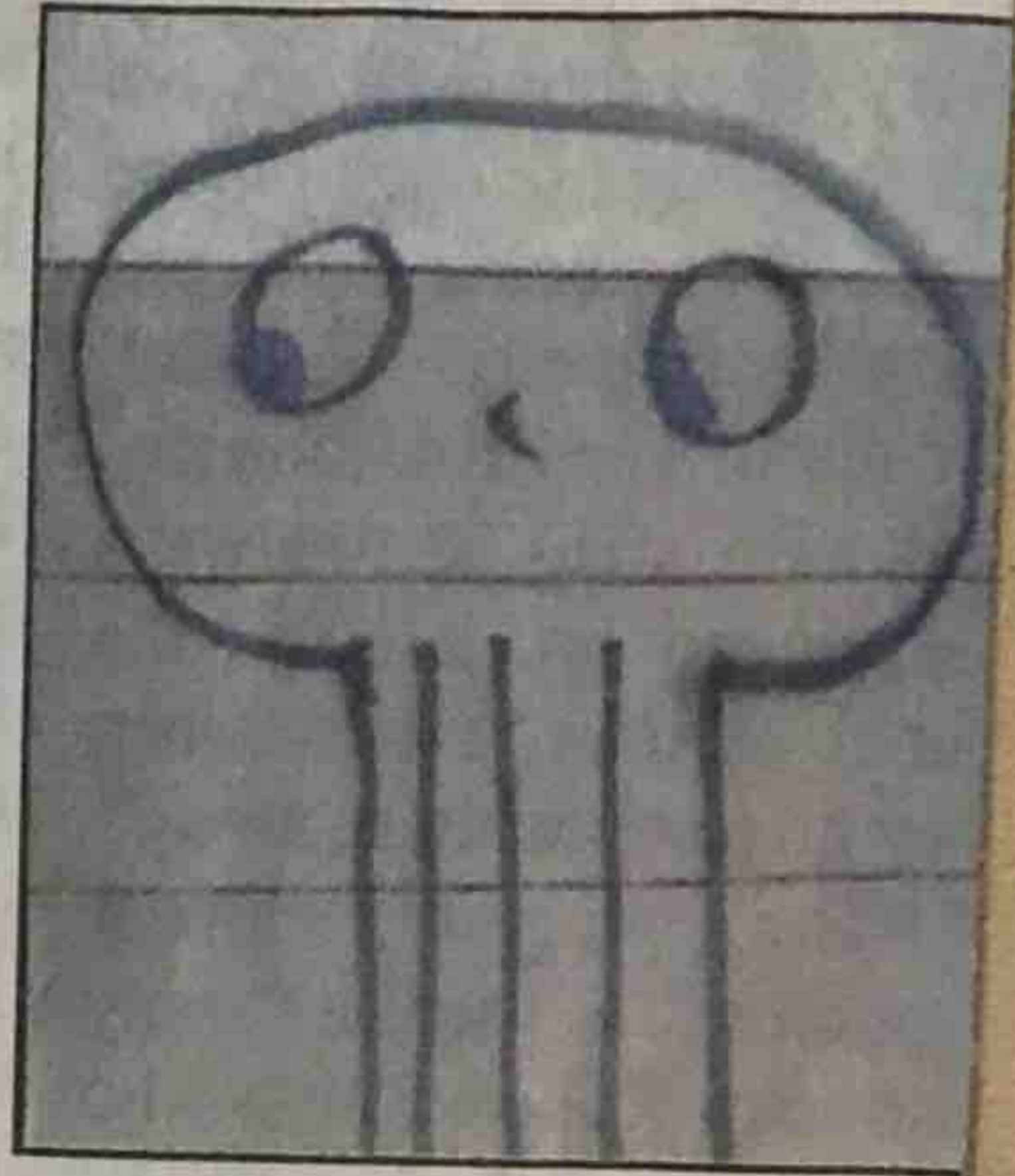
Tribune Correspondent

Known by many as the pride and joy of the Kingwood community, the new Kingwood Library was deliberately vandalized on the night or early morning of Sept. 7 – 8 by an unknown perpetrator or perpetrators, according to local police.

Houston Police Department Officer William Lacy said it appears to be the work of "taggers," and does not appear to be gang-related. He said his assessment is based on the "A-S" tag that was used and other graphics, which do not resemble known gang tags.

"The "A-S" appears to be a tag and I've never seen that particular tag associated with a gang. If it's a tagger, and they've used that symbol

See LIBRARY/5A



Graffiti and obscenities were left behind by vandals on the exterior of the new Kingwood Library. Photos by Trilla Cook

LIBRARY vandalized

CONTINUED FROM 1A

before and the kids know it, we'll eventually get them," Lacy said.

The criminal mischief occurred less than five months after the newly constructed Kingwood Branch of the Harris County Library System opened its doors for business on April 19, after much anticipation by the community.

The graffiti consists of large drawings including a BMX-style bicycle, the word "Grind," a fancy "A-S" symbol and various other graphics, which were all applied to the building using black and fuchsia colored spray paint.

Christi Whittington, head librarian at the Kingwood Library, said the incident occurred sometime Tuesday night (Sept. 7) and was discovered the next morning when staff members arrived for work. Even though the library is closed to the public on Wednesdays, she said it is still a work day for them.

"This is a community building and I feel like this is something that was done against the community," Whittington said. "I don't get disappointed with many things, but this really bothered me. It's a violation and crime against the community – not just against the library."

The graffiti appears as giant amateur tattoos on three sides of the building and are also located above the awning at the entry walkway and over the staff entrance at the back of the building.



Vandals hit the Kingwood Library last week. Photo by Trilla Cook

"We are very thankful that, because they wrote "obscenities" on windows instead of the building exterior, we were able to immediately remove them, once the obscenities were discovered by staff in the children's area," said Whittington.

Whittington said they have contacted all the proper Harris County officials who are affiliated with the library and that the investigation is just beginning. A determination is expected to be made as to whether or not the graffiti can be removed mechanically or chemically, and go from there.

If anyone has information regarding this incident, contact the Houston Police Department – Kingwood station at 3915 Rustic Woods Drive or call 281-913-4500.

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2010

VOL. 33, NO. 39

Two in custody in connection with library graffiti

By STEFANIE THOMAS
sthomas@hcnonline.com

Police arrested two men in connection with the Sept. 7 tagging at the Kingwood Library.

Houston Police Department tactical Officer B. Lacy said 19-year-old Nicholas Culp and 20-year-old Fernando Esquivel were charged with state

jail felony graffiti Monday, Sept. 20.

"Nightshift Officer P. Schaffer had stopped [Culp and Esquivel] a few days ago while they were riding their bicycles, and they had paint on them. I think this was after the tagging at the library," Lacy said. "Officer Schaffer documented their names because the paint was suspicious. We brought

them in Monday and got a confession out of both of them. They told us they did it because they were bored."

Lacy said it turned out the initials "S" and "A" painted on the library walls stood for "San Antonio," Culp's home town. Esquivel is originally from Florida, Lacy said, but both men have been staying with relatives in Kingwood for some

time.

Kingwood Library branch librarian Christi Whittington said she was relieved that the persons responsible were identified and taken into custody.

"I was extremely pleased with the excellent police work of Officer Lacy and Officer Schaffer. This really shows what good police officers we have out here at the Kingwood

substation, and I thank them for their service," she said.

"So many in the community expressed their concern and offered their help once they became aware of the vandalism. The Kingwood community feels ownership in the library, as they should. I want to thank them also, as their concern was so heartfelt. It makes coming to work here such a

joy."

Both Culp and Esquivel remain in Harris County Jail on a \$2,000 bond each.

Lacy said the two men are not suspected in connection with swastika graffiti in the area, which occurred only a few days after the Kingwood Library tagging. That case remains under investigation and no arrest has been made.

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2010

VOL. 33, NO. 36

Vandals deface Kingwood Library, public signs with graffiti



Photo by STEFANIE THOMAS/The Observer

By STEFANIE THOMAS
sthomas@hcnonline.com

An act of criminal mischief has put a damper on the joy and excitement over the opening of the new Harris County Library Kingwood Branch.

According to Houston Police Department officials, one or more taggers targeted the new library, which just opened in mid-April on Bens View Lane, overnight Sept. 7. When library employees reported to

work Wednesday morning, nearly every eye-level surface of the building was sprayed with images and phrases pertaining mostly to the BMX biking culture.

"I love this place. This just kills me," said branch librarian Christi Whittington. "It's such disrespect to the community. This is the community's library. The community has taken to us, and it should - this is a wonderful facility. I just feel like it was personal. And I

know it wasn't, it was just an opportunity for someone. It's all over the building - in purple and black."

Whittington said thankfully the only obscenity left behind by the tagger(s) was sprayed onto a window in the children's section. The phrase taunted the police, saying, "[Expletive] PO PO," but was easily removed from the glass surface.

"The other stuff that's on the brick and on the limestone

and on the material on the back side of the building, that's a whole other side of the story," Whittington said. "It may take some chemical to clean it."

In addition to the message sent to police, the tagger(s) painted bicycles, a symbol from the John Travolta movie "The Punisher" and words like "grind," in reference to the BMX culture. The mischief-

See GRAFFITI, Page 10A

GRAFFITI

Continued from Page 1A

maker also left his mark in the form of a symbol made up of two letters, possibly his own initials, a capital "S" and "A" intertwined with an arrow flourish on the letter "S."

Keese Smith, spokesman for the Houston Police Department, said there have been no arrests and there are no suspects at this time. The symbols left by the tagger(s) are not gang-related, he said.

Clean-up procedures have been initiated, Whittington said, but may take a while.

"It was passed to another (county) department. The property management department has to decide if it can be cleaned up with power washing or if that will make it worse," she explained. "Then they may have to call someone to do more, and get the funding for it. But as everyone knows, the county, like everyone else, is in dire straits with funding."

Whittington expressed wor-

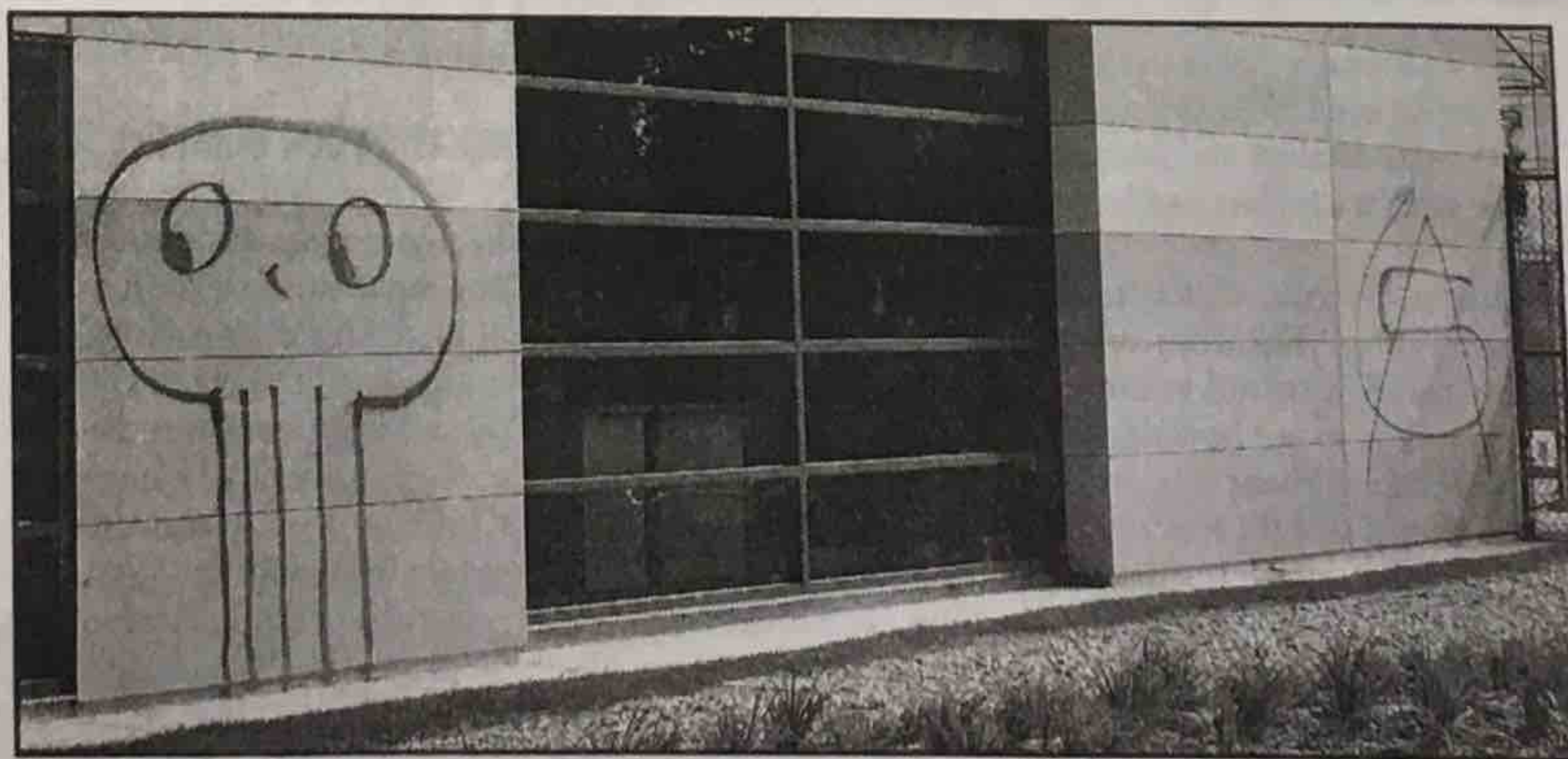


Photo by STEFANIE THOMAS/The Observer

The "Punisher," a symbol taken from a John Travolta movie.

ries that the tagger(s) might come back for more. The building is well-lit at night, she said, but the library premises are somewhat isolated.

"We're in a secluded area, and that was on purpose, but obviously it was just too enticing to someone," she said, adding that there have been no other problems with crime at the library since its opening. "We are very popular, have soared to being fourth in the county in circulation, and

that's behind the libraries that are 1,000 square feet bigger than us, and the ones that are college libraries/public libraries combined. But in my mind I see New York subway graffiti all over the place. It's terrible."

According to the city of Houston website, the price tag of graffiti removal comes at a cost of \$8 billion annually nationwide. Immediate removal of the tagging, within 24 to 48 hours, is the key to successful

graffiti prevention, according to the website. Criminal mischief is a misdemeanor, but graffiti can be bumped up to a felony if there is more than one piece of "art" work.

Whittington hopes someone may recognize the tagger's symbols and provide a lead to police.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the HPD Kingwood Division at 281-913-4500.

★ KINGWOOD ★ THE OBSERVER

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2010

Vandals deface Kingwood Library, public signs



Photo by STEFANIE THOMAS/The Observer

By STEFANIE THOMAS
sthomas@hcnonline.com

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According to Houston Police Department officials, one or more taggers targeted the new library, which just opened in mid-April on Bens View Lane, overnight Sept. 7. When library employees reported to

work Wednesday morning, nearly every eye-level surface of the building was sprayed with images and phrases pertaining mostly to the BMX biking culture.

"I love this place. This just kills me," said branch librarian Christi Whittington. "It's such disrespect to the community. This is the community's library. The community has taken to us, and it should - this is a wonderful facility. I just feel like it was personal. And I

know it wasn't, it was an opportunity for someone to do something all over the building and black."

Whittington said the only obscenity was by the tagger(s) who went onto a window in the children's section. They taunted the police. "[Expletive] PO PC easily removed from surface."

"The other stuff was on the brick and on the

GRAFFITI

Continued from Page 1A

maker also left his mark in the form of a symbol made up of two letters, possibly his own initials, a capital "S" and "A" intertwined with an arrow flourish on the letter "S."

Keese Smith, spokesman for the Houston Police Department, said there have been no arrests and there are no suspects at this time. The symbols left by the tagger(s) are not gang-related, he said.

Clean-up procedures have been initiated, Whittington said, but may take a while.

"It was passed to another (county) department. The property management department has to decide if it can be cleaned up with power washing or if that will make it worse," she explained. "Then they may have to call someone to do more, and get the funding for it. But as everyone knows, the county, like everyone else, is in dire straits with funding."

Whittington expressed wor-

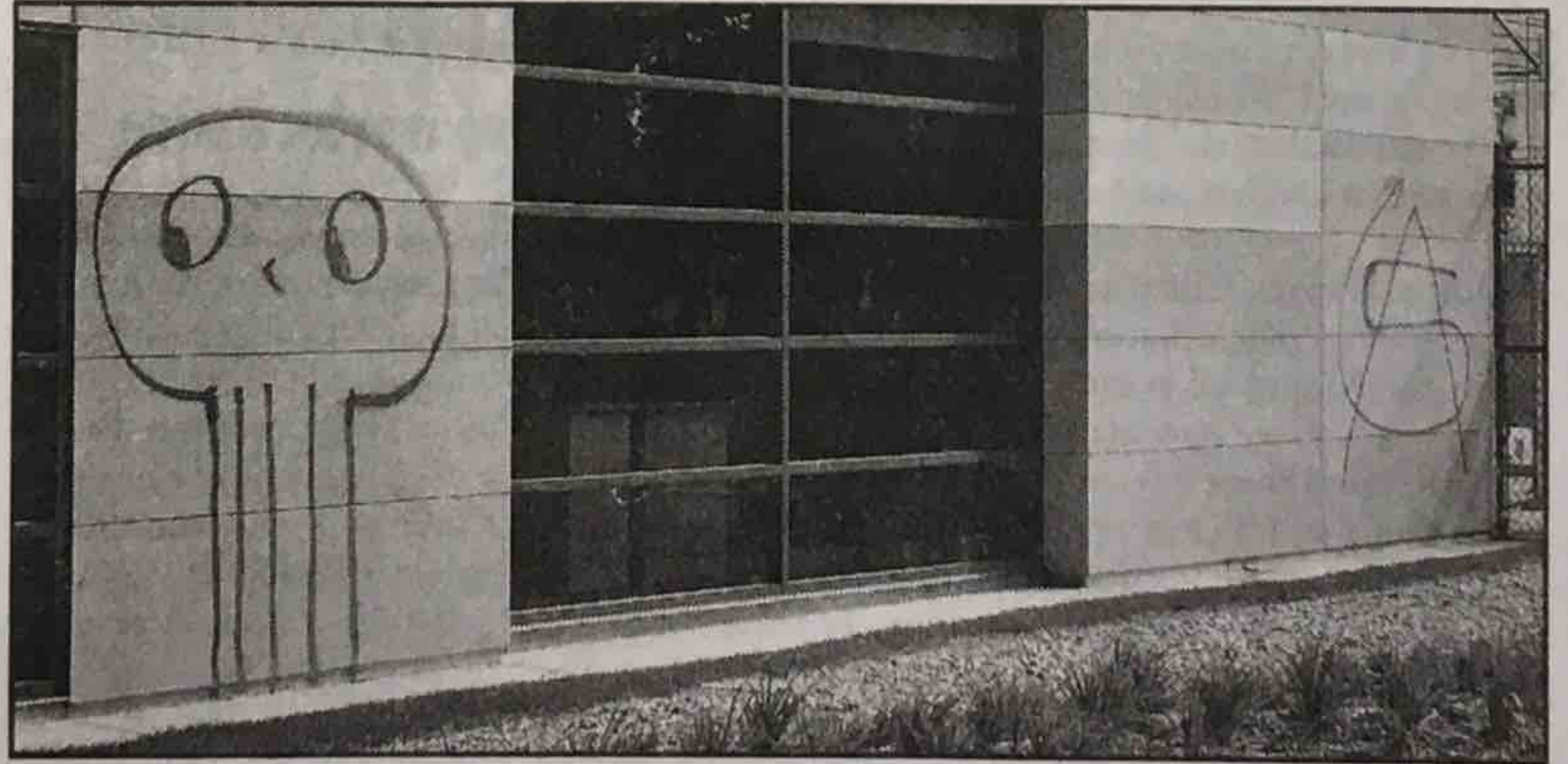


Photo by STEFANIE THOMAS/The Observer

The "Punisher," a symbol taken from a John Travolta movie.

ries that the tagger(s) might come back for more. The building is well-lit at night, she said, but the library premises are somewhat isolated.

"We're in a secluded area, and that was on purpose, but obviously it was just too enticing to someone," she said, adding that there have been no other problems with crime at the library since its opening. "We are very popular, have soared to being fourth in the county in circulation, and

that's behind the libraries that are 1,000 square feet bigger than us, and the ones that are college libraries/public libraries combined. But in my mind I see New York subway graffiti all over the place. It's terrible."

According to the city of Houston website, the price tag of graffiti removal comes at a cost of \$8 billion annually nationwide. Immediate removal of the tagging, within 24 to 48 hours, is the key to successful

graffiti prevention, according to the website. Criminal mischief is a misdemeanor, but graffiti can be bumped up to a felony if there is more than one piece of "art" work.

Whittington hopes someone may recognize the tagger's symbols and provide a lead to police.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the HPD Kingwood Division at 281-913-4500.

Two in custody in connection with library graffiti

By STEFANIE THOMAS
sthomas@hcnonline.com

Police arrested two men in connection with the Sept. 7 tagging at the Kingwood Library.

Houston Police Department tactical Officer B. Lacy said 19-year-old Nicholas Culp and 20-year-old Fernando Esquivel were charged with stare

jail felony graffiti Monday, Sept. 20.

"Nightshift Officer P. Schaffer had stopped [Culp and Esquivel] a few days ago while they were riding their bicycles, and they had paint on them. I think this was after the tagging at the library," Lacy said. "Officer Schaffer documented their names because the paint was suspicious. We brought

them in Monday and got a confession out of both of them. They told us they did it because they were bored."

Lacy said it turned out the initials "S" and "A" painted on the library walls stood for "San Antonio," Culp's home town. Esquivel is originally from Florida, Lacy said, but both men have been staying with relatives in Kingwood for some

time.

Kingwood Library branch librarian Christi Whittington said she was relieved that the persons responsible were identified and taken into custody.

"I was extremely pleased with the excellent police work of Officer Lacy and Officer Schaffer. This really shows what good police officers we have out here at the Kingwood

substation, and I thank them for their service," she said.

"So many in the community expressed their concern and offered their help once they became aware of the vandalism. The Kingwood community feels ownership in the library, as they should. I want to thank them also, as their concern was so heartfelt. It makes coming to work here such a

joy."

Both Culp and Esquivel remain in Harris County Jail on a \$2,000 bond each.

Lacy said the two men are not suspected in connection with swastika graffiti in the area, which occurred only a few days after the Kingwood Library tagging. That case remains under investigation and no arrest has been made.

IN YOUR OPINION

Book sale success

Dear Editor:

A big thank you goes out to the Kingwood community for patronizing and donating books for FOLK's back-to-school sale. As usual you have made this book sale an awesome success. And the proceeds from the book sale help to subsidize what the county does not have the budget to provide for the Kingwood Library.

Because our back-to-school sale for our teachers and students has been so successful FOLK's Bookstore at the Kingwood Library in need of used books, both fiction and non-fiction, and especially cookbooks, travel and children's books.

Donated books may be delivered to the bookstore during library business hours: Monday, 1-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 1-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The library is closed Sunday and Wednesday.

Emily Maas

Friends Of the Library Kingwood

KINGWOOD AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN DONATE BOOKS TO LIBRARY



Kingwood Area Republican Women recently donated several books to the Kingwood Library. Standing - Marian Manchack, Halene Crossman, Skippy Lupton, Christi Whittington (Librarian), Betty Newton, Nancy Fulton. Seated - Terice Richards, Mary Blanchard, Barbara Jordan.

The Kingwood Area Republican Women recently donated twelve books to Kingwood Library as part of their on-going commitment to literacy. Four of the books are a part of the Barbara Bush Literacy Library Project and were selected to honor various speakers the Club has featured at meetings. Eight of the books are a part of the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project, established by the NFRW in 1961, and were selected to honor several Past Presidents of KARW.

All of the books showcase Republican values and principles to library patrons of all ages. Following is a list of the books and the honorees.

BLLP Books: "The Boss of You" by Lauren Bacon in honor of Cynthia Calvert; "Preparedness Now!" by Aton Edwards in honor of Angela Davis; "The Slave Across the Street" by Theresa Flores in honor of Dennis Mark of Redeemed Ministries; "Texas: A Compact History" by Archie McDonald in honor of State Senator Dan Patrick. MELP

Books: "Economics in One Lesson" by Henry Hazlitt in honor of Barbara Jordan 1985-1986; "How Capitalism Will Save Us" by Steve Forbes in honor of Jeanette Guttormson 1991; "George Washington's World" by Genevieve Foster in honor of Charlotte Henderson 1993-1994; "Capitalism and Freedom" by Milton Friedman in honor of Mary Blanchard 1995; "Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?" by Jean Fritz in honor of Kindra Hefner 1996; "Franklin: The Essential Founding Father" by James Srodes in honor of Cheryl Johnson 1998-1999; "Take the Lead, George Washington" by Judith St. George in honor of Jan Pohler 2000; "American Creation" by Joseph Ellis in honor of Terice Richards 2003-2004.

The next meeting of KARW will be Wednesday, October 20, at Kingwood Country Club at 11 a.m. with 'Borah Van Dormolen, Texas' Republican National Committeewoman, as the featured speaker. For reservations, contact Wendy at 281-359-3775.

Two arrested for Kingwood Library damages

By TRILLA COOK

Tribune Correspondent

In less than two weeks following a graffiti incident at the Kingwood Library, the Houston Police Department arrested two Kingwood residents for the damages.

On Sept. 20, HPD Officer William Lacy arrested two adult males on state jail felony charges involving graffiti at the new Kingwood Library on the night of Sept. 7.

Lacy brought Nicholas Cult, 19, and Fernando Esquivel, 20, in for questioning and arrested them after they confessed to defacing the Kingwood Library with graffiti.

According to Lacy, the arrest came about after HPD night patrol Officer Schafer stopped a vehicle with three occupants Sept. 11 and found them in possession of paint. This was documented by Schafer, along with the names of the occupants of the vehicle.

Lacy was then given the information from the report and, when he brought the suspects in for questioning, they confessed to defacing the library.

“Officer Schafer did not arrest

them on the night of Sept. 11 because it’s not against the law to have paint in your possession, but he documented their names. He gave their names to me; I brought them in this morning, and I was able to get them to confess,” said Lacy. “They were charged with graffiti, a state jail felony, and I arrested both of them.”

According to Lacy, the third suspect in the vehicle was not involved in the library incident.

“Boredom” was the reason given to Lacy by Cult, originally from San Antonio, and Esquivel, originally from Florida, for the felony act.

Lacy said the two suspects were honest with him about the library damages and, in his opinion, were not connected with other reports in the community of spray-painted swastikas on signs in various neighborhoods.

“Right now, that’s the only one that they’ve been charged with. We’re still looking at reports of cases that have happened in the past but we haven’t found any, yet, as far as linking them to any other cases. That is the only one they admitted to that night, so that’s

— *Graffiti phantoms are caught*

the only one they did as far as we know,” he said.

Originally thought to be the work of juvenile “taggers,” Lacy said he was surprised to find out the suspects are adults.

“We’ve had a lot of phone calls from the community. And the Kingwood librarian was very appreciative to the community because she got a lot of phone calls as well. They were very happy... not a lot of graffiti cases get solved because you generally don’t have any witnesses,” said Lacy.

The incident occurred less than five months after the newly constructed Kingwood Branch of the Harris County Library System opened its doors for business on April 19.



Graffiti and ob-
scenities were
left behind by
vandals on the
exterior of the
new Kingwood
Library. Photo
by Trilla Cook

librarian at the Kingwood Library is thankful for the arrests and to the community for their support and compassion.

"I am so excited with the news of the arrests. I am also surprised, because so many times these guys just don't get caught," said Whittington. "The community feels like the library is theirs and I had at least four offers from different groups from the community who volunteered to help remove the graffiti. It's just a wonderful community."

Whittington said she was shocked when she was told the suspects were 19 and 20-year-olds. "I do really want to thank the

local papers for publicizing the incident because I think that helped a lot," Whittington said.

According to Whittington, the Harris County Facilities Department is in the process of getting estimates for repairs, possibly from outside firms.

"As far as I know the county is going to take care of it," said Whittington. "An estimation of the damages is at least \$2,000 and possibly more."

If anyone has information regarding acts of vandalism or crime tips in the community, contact the Houston Police Department – Kingwood station at 3915 Rustic Woods Drive or call 281-913-4500.

The graffiti consisted of huge drawings, which include a BMX-style bicycle, the word "Grind," a fancy "A-S" symbol and various other graphics. The graffiti was applied to the building using black and fuchsia-colored spray paint. This paint is what Schafer reported in his documentation, which eventually led the arresting officer to the perpetrators.

Christi Whittington, head

THE TRIBUNE
WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 6, 2010
SECTION B

BOOKS

Celebrating freedom one book at a time

A LIBRARIAN'S VIEW

Librarians are usually on the frontline of the banned books battle because so many of them are committed to providing free and unlimited access to knowledge to the general public.

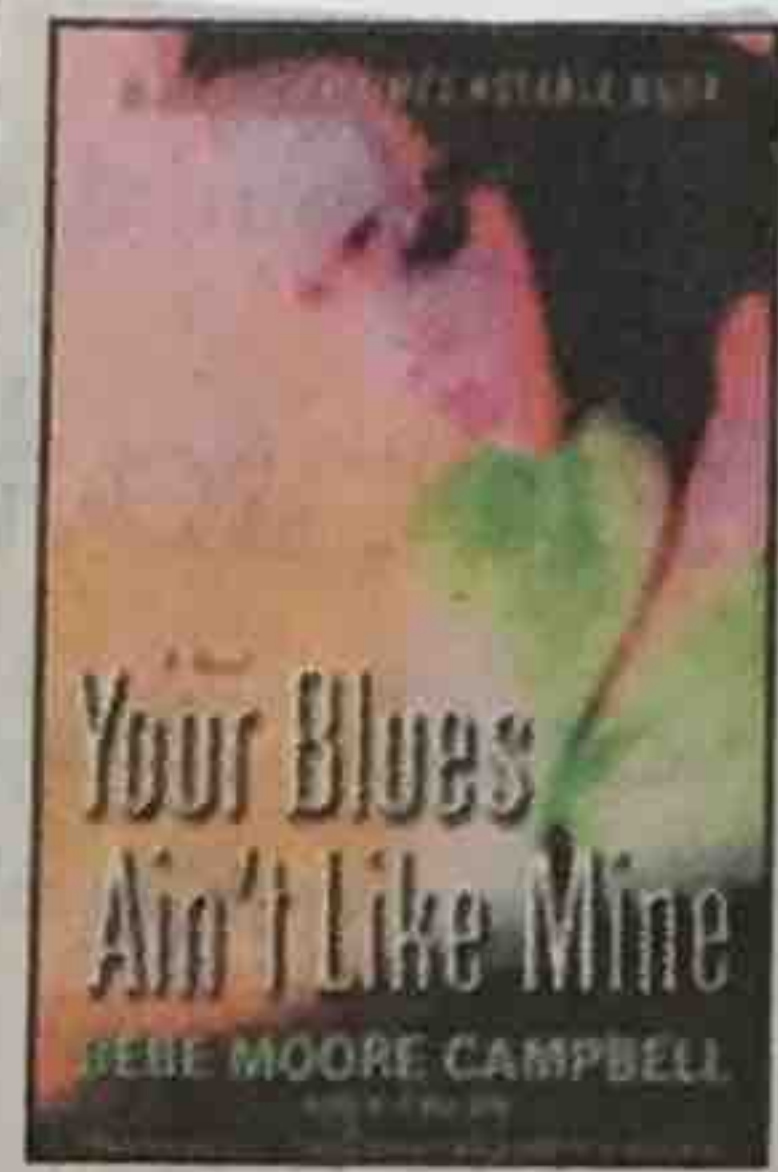
Connie Dye, the Children's Librarian at the Kingwood Library, and Sunni Valvaneda, the Young Adult Assistant Librarian, take their commitments to spreading knowledge very seriously.

Dye said that the library rarely has issues with banned books because the library system has a process in place to ensure the quality and integrity of its selections.

"Our goals are somewhat different from a school's and a lot of people understand that," she said. "Our main goal is not to support curriculum, although that is an important part of what we do, but we are like arsonists; our main goal is to light the fire and you do what it takes, even if that means reading 'Captain Underpants' or 'Walter the Farting Dog' or even 'The Canterbury Tales.' You don't have to read one particular book."

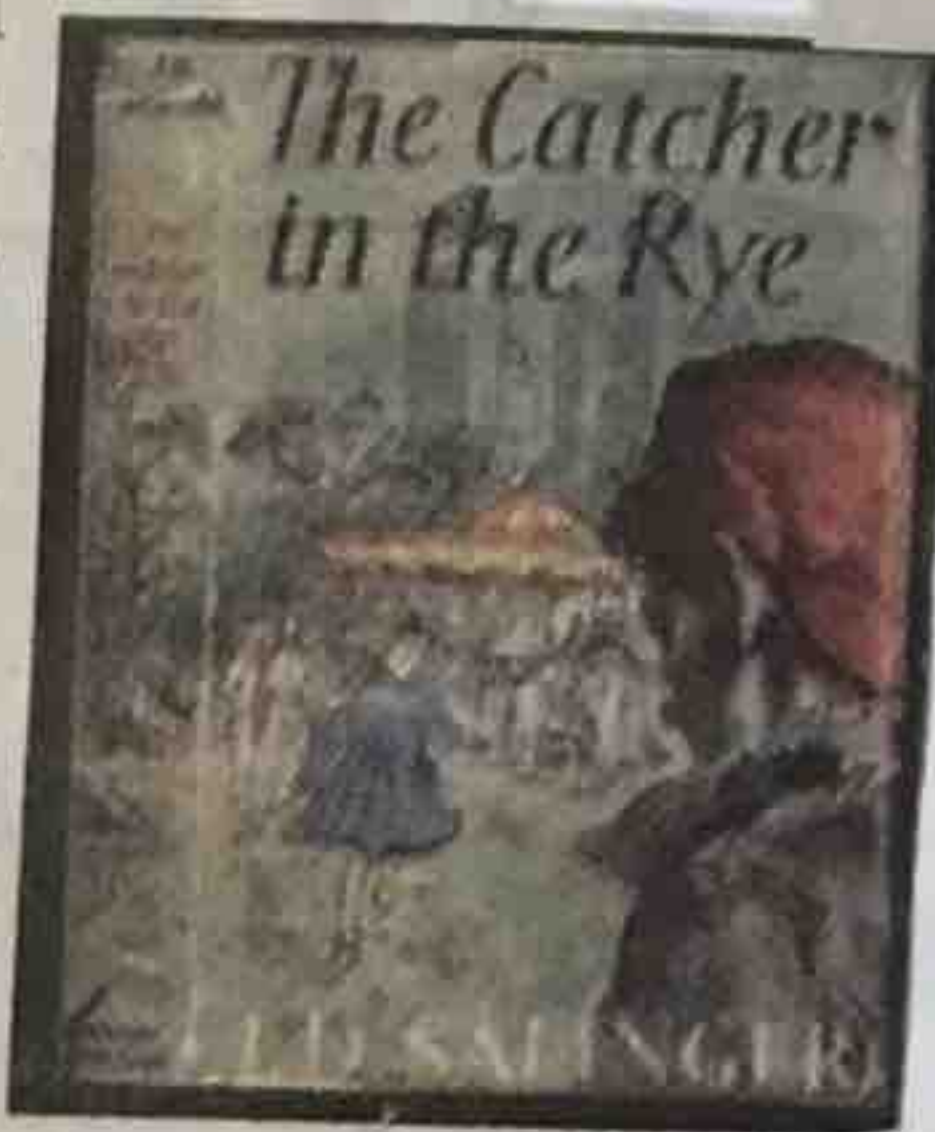
The Banned Book List stands as a testament to the rapidly changing ideas that dominate popular culture and reflects how people's attitudes have changed over time. What was once considered risqué is often now often considered blasé. Similarly, with the large selection of books available, people have to use their own judgment about the appropriateness of the books they read.

"What's banned changes over time; it depends on what's in the news," Dye explained. "The thing is that, for fiction especially, reading is a very personal thing. We have a selection process in place so that, just because I don't



KINGWOOD LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

The book club meets Oct. 18 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. to discuss "Your Blues Ain't Like Mine" by Bebe Moore Campbell. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

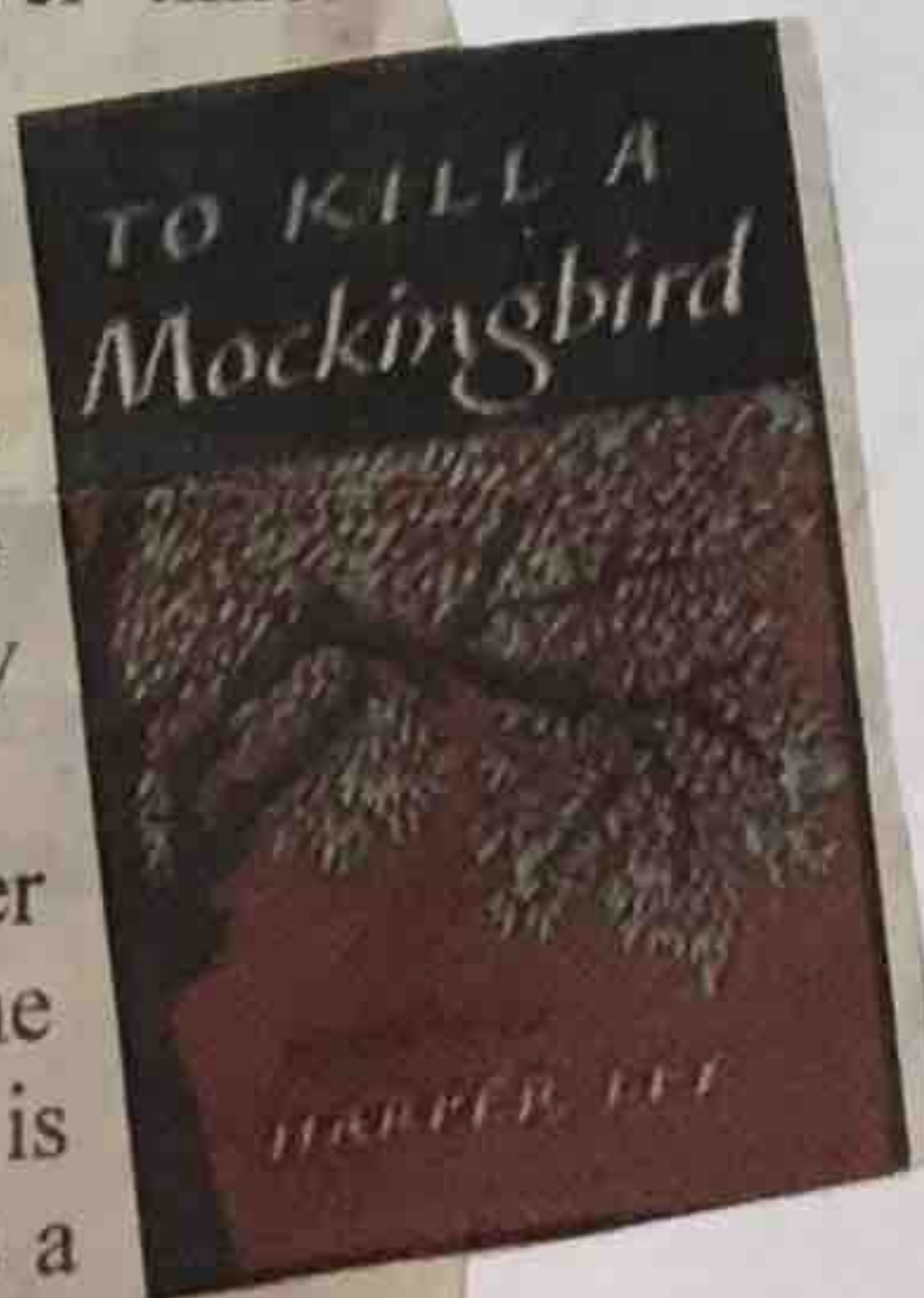


KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4400 Bens View Lane
281-360-6804

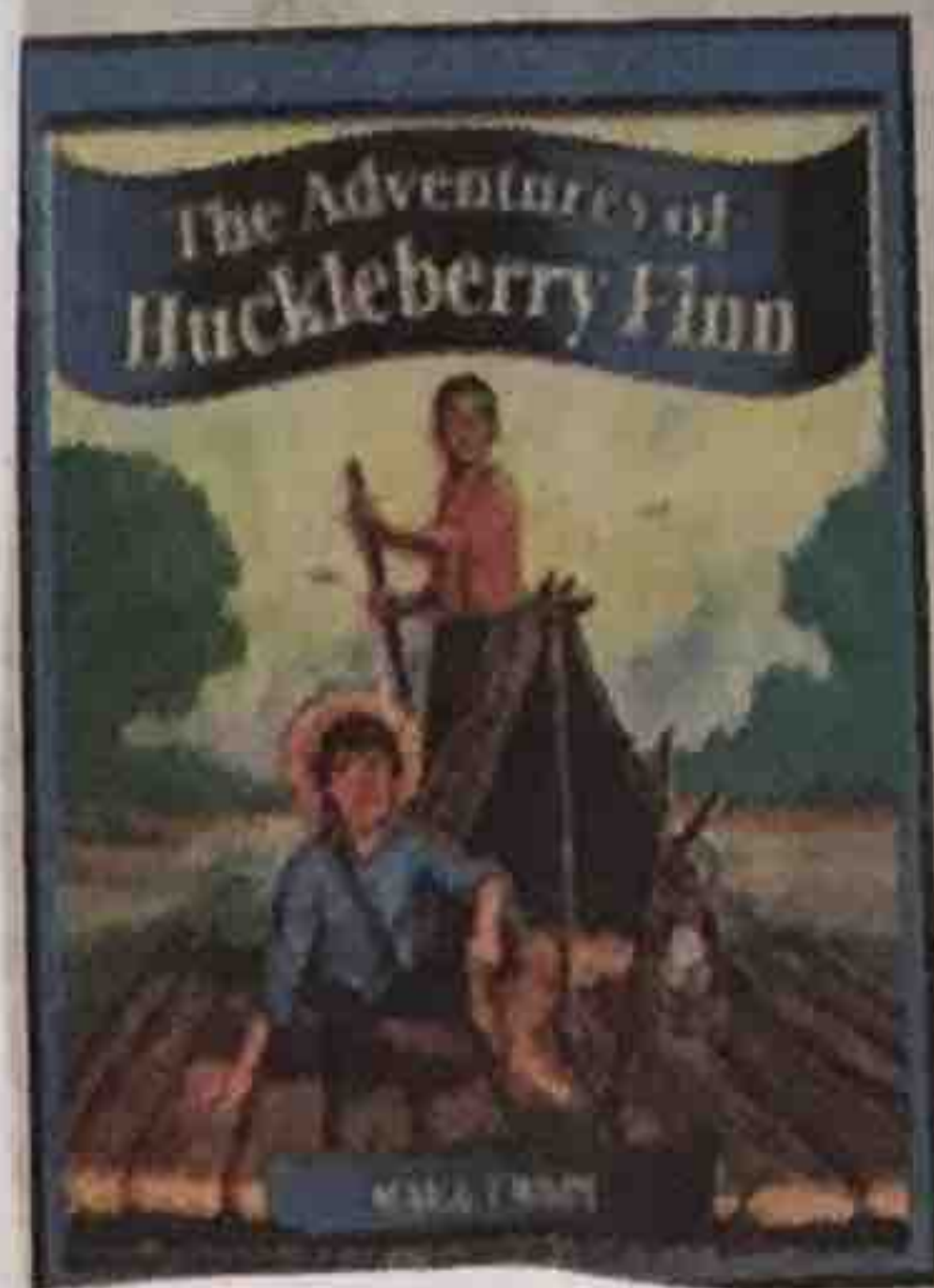
"Toddler Time" entertains children ages 18 months to two years with finger puppet plays and storytimes. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

"Thrilling Thursday" helps entertain children with games and craft activities to off-set the chance of a boring afternoon. Thursdays, 4 p.m.
"Fabulous Friday at the Movies" brings children of all ages together for a night in Hollywood with a movie viewing. Fridays, 4 p.m.



like something or someone else doesn't like something, we don't take it off our shelves.

It's the parent who must ultimately make the decisions for their own children."



DIVERSIONS

1C

Wednesday, October 13, 2010
observereditor@hcnonline.com
www.emcobserver.com



Submitted photo

The members of the Hispanic Ladies Club of Kingwood wore fashions that represented their home countries at a Hispanic Heritage Month celebration at the Kingwood Library Sept. 23.

Hispanic Ladies Club, library team up for celebration

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

The Hispanic Ladies Club of Kingwood and the Kingwood Branch Library celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month on Sept. 23 at the Kingwood Library. The members of the Hispanic Club collaborated in the one-day event to celebrate Heritage Hispanic Month in Kingwood.

"We are thankful to Christi C. Whittington, the branch librarian, to let us participate in this event," said Elsy Matz, president of the club. "We had a great time and response from our members. Each represent-

ed their own country such as Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Honduras, Peru, Puerto Rico and Venezuela. Each country had an exhibit with a variety of food, music, paints, pictures, objects, crafts, authentic and colored dresses, etc."

The Hispanic Ladies Club invites new Hispanic ladies to Kingwood and Atascocita to participate in the group's monthly meetings. The KHLC meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. in different locations in Kingwood. For more information or to get involved, visit www.clubdedamashispanasdekingwood@yahoo.com.

Buy a bundle of 3 books and save a buck

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

It's time to start thinking about holiday shopping at the FOLK Used Bookstore at the Kingwood Library. Bundles of three hardbacks tied with a ribbon are selling for \$5, or three trade paperbacks for \$2, a \$1 savings. Put them in one of FOLK's reusable book bags for an additional \$3 and just put it under the tree. Gift certificates are also available in the bookstore.

Memberships in the Friends Of the Library Kingwood are half price (\$10) now through Dec. 31. FOLK members will

receive a 10-percent discount on purchases in the bookstore through March 31, 2011. To continue receiving the discount, memberships can be renewed annually for \$20 beginning April 1, 2011. All book sales and membership fees benefit the Kingwood Library.

FOLK has an ongoing need for used book donations, especially children's books, cook books and craft books. Book donations may be tax deductible. Take book donations to the bookstore in the library at 4400 Bens View Lane any day except Wednesday or Sunday.

Observer Diversions, Wednesday, November 17, 2010, Page 3C

■ **Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK)** needs donations of used books, especially non-fiction and children's books, for its bookstore at the Kingwood Branch Library at 4400 Bens View Lane.

Acceptable donations include any and all books; text and computer books, 2007 and after; all engineering/petro/chemical books; videos, DVDs, CDs, computer games, audio books, software; music books and sheet music; comics, complete puzzles and records; current magazines - 2010 only, although prior year arts/craft magazines are accepted.

Non-acceptable donations include text and computer books 2006 and prior, cassettes, encyclopedias and magazines published prior to 2010.

To volunteer to work in the bookstore or to join FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org. FOLK members receive a 10-percent discount on bookstore

purchases. Membership fees and bookstore purchases benefit the Kingwood Library. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.

Kingwood Branch Library holds food drive

The Kingwood Branch Library, a Harris County Public Library, will sponsor a food drive benefiting HAAM Friday, Dec. 10, from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. This food drive is part of the Channel 13 "Share Your Holidays" annual food drive.

The community is encouraged to bring

nonperishable food for donation. Nonperishable food includes canned goods, pasta; rice; sugar; flour; spices; cereal; dried nuts; dried fruit; beans; lentils; and canned tuna. Donations will help feed the approximately one in three Humble area children who now live in poverty as well as other

persons in need of assistance in the community.

Come early to meet Santa, who will visit from 7 until 9 a.m. The Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir will entertain at 1 p.m. and at 2 p.m., the Kingwood High School Jazz quartet will perform.

For more information, contact Diana Steinman at 281-360-6804 or by e-mail at dsteinma@hcpl.net.

Community center construction to begin January

Delays, debates plague the project

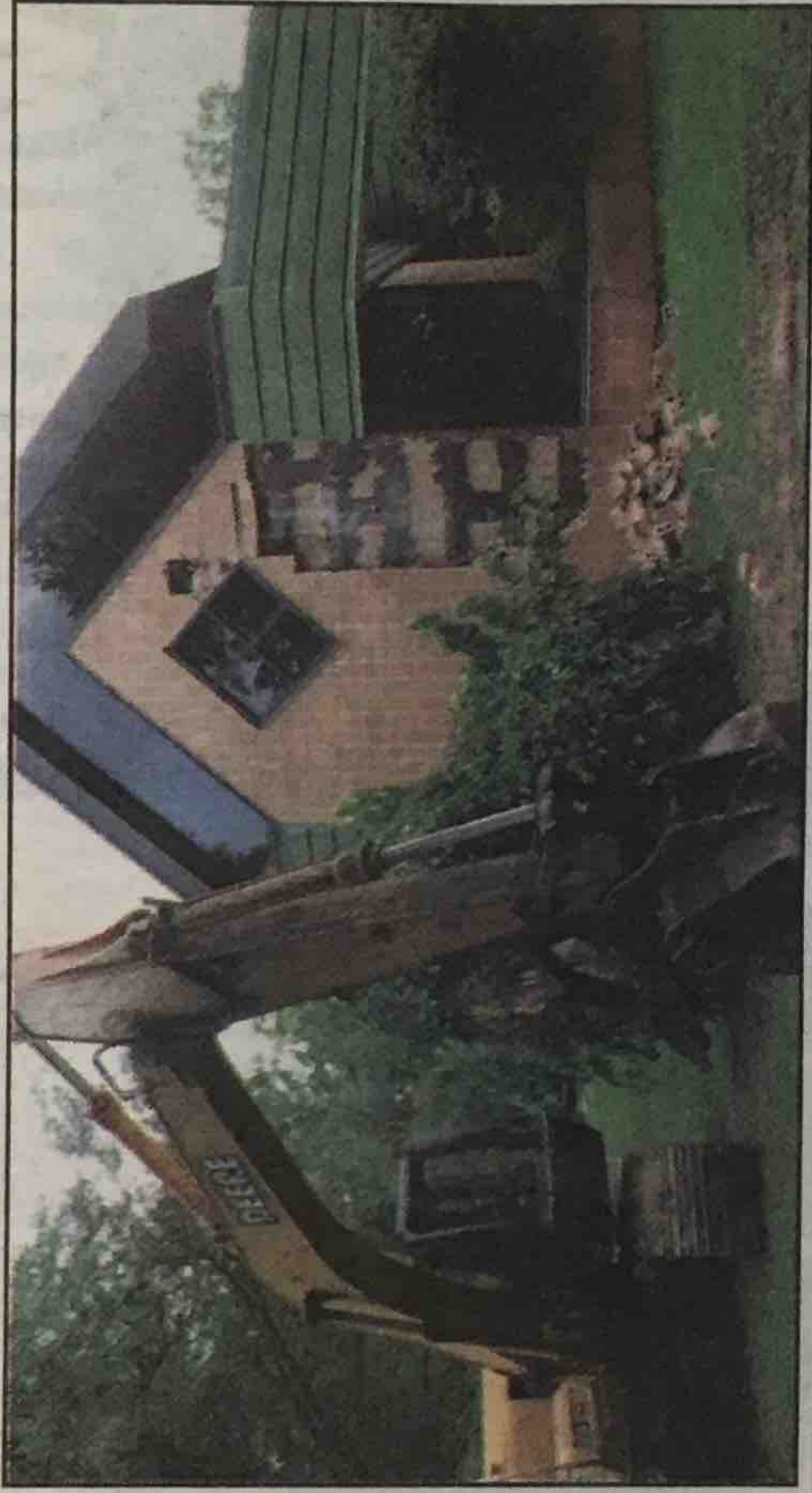
BY JIM MIDDLETON

Tribune Correspondent

Once again, Houston City Councilman Mike Sullivan has announced another start date for construction of a long-promised community center in Kingwood. The off-again, on-again construction project will begin "around January 1," according to the November newsletter from Sullivan's office.

"This is as close to a beginning of the construction as we've had," said Sullivan,

See CENTER/5A



The new year should bring new community center, on the site of the old Kingwood library.

CENTER

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"Funding is in place and a contractor has been given notice to begin construction by the city."

The planned community center has not been without controversy. Several years ago the city and Harris County agreed to a deal whereby the city provided land for a new county library. The old library site would be given to the city to turn

into a community center. The plans proceeded and the new Kingwood library, operated by Harris County and located on city property, opened earlier this year.

The controversy began this past March when it was announced the old library would be demolished and planted over, due to budgetary constraints. The Kingwood community reacted strongly against the plan and, in a matter of days, the city relented and agreed to honor their commitment to build a community center on the site.

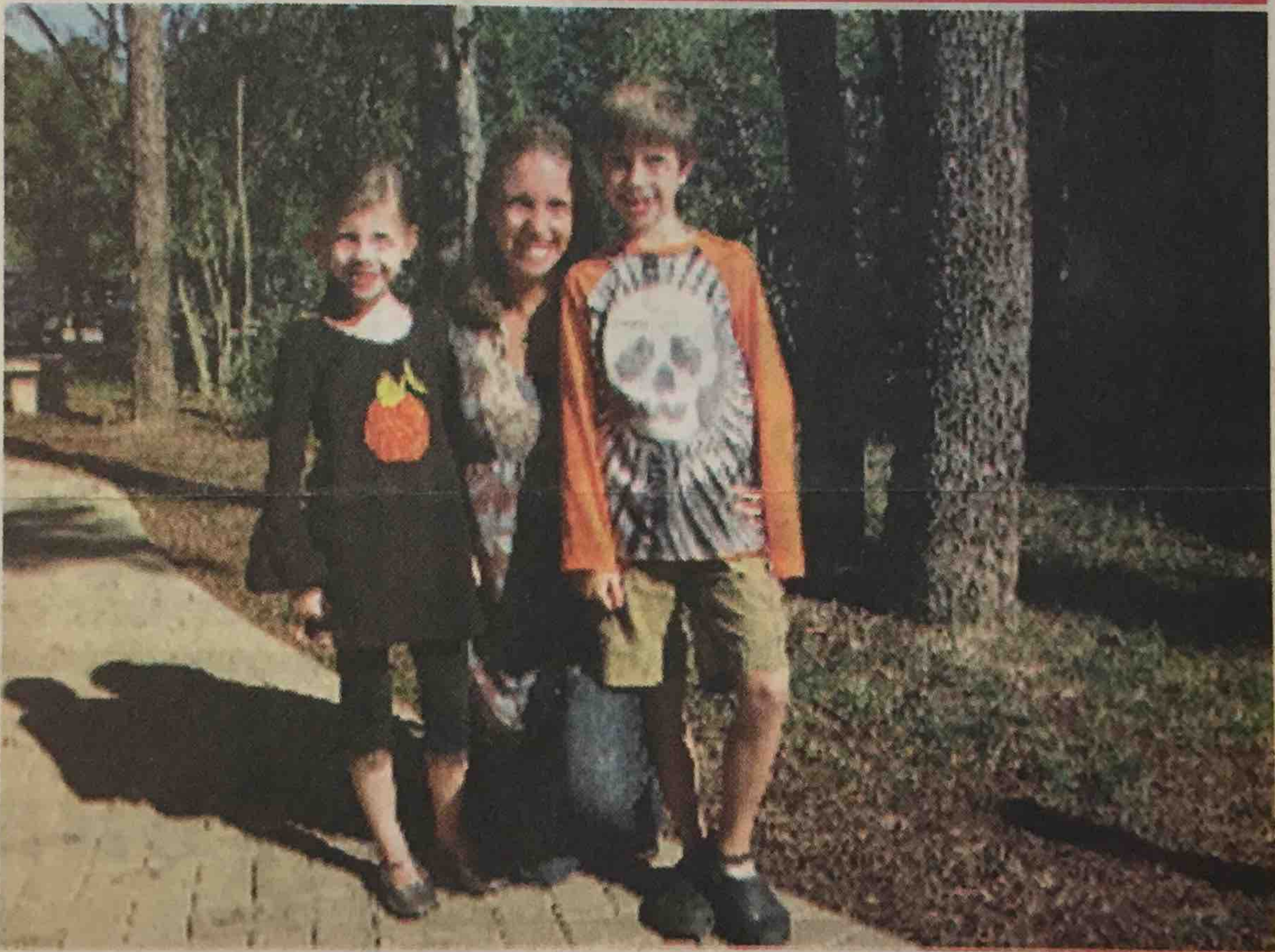
Construction has been delayed multiple times due to design alterations of the building, requests for landscaping changes, and modifications to the parking lot. Some of the changes were requested by the Kings Crossing Community Association. According to Sullivan, all change requests and revised drawings have been approved by the appropriate city departments and all design requirements have been met.

For more information about Sullivan and District E, visit www.houstontx.gov/council/e/index.html.

THE TRIBUNE
WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2010
SECTION B

BOOKS

THIRD GROUP OF PAVERS INSTALLED AT KINGWOOD LIBRARY



Parker and Ella Rose, accompanied by their mother, Lexie, find the paver installed in their honor at the new Kingwood Branch Library. Pavers are still being added to the sidewalk at the library and the next order will be sent in November. For those interested in purchasing a paver for yourself or in honor or memory of someone, please contact Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844 or Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261.

THE TRIBUNE
- KINGWOOD
WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 2, 2009
SECTION B

BOOKS

FOLK UNVEILS PAVERS FOR NEW LIBRARY



Friends Of the Library Kingwood Board Members recently gathered at the entry of the new library to view the laying of the dedicated pavers on the sidewalk entering the building. 150 pavers have been purchased and laid. More will be ordered in January 2010. FOLK Board Members and Librarian were joined by Joyce Gould, who created two sculptures which will be placed in the new library. Pictured left side front to back Carolyn Humphrey, Connie Jaeger, Wanda Bartels, Betsy Birkett, Joyce Gould. Right side front to back Becky Jinnette, Marianne Lincoln, Christi Whittington. For more details regarding the purchase of a paver, or other library contributions, visit FOLK's Web site at www.kingwoodfolk.org, or call Connie Jaeger at 281-360-5261, or Carolyn Humphrey at 281-360-5844.

THE TRIBUNE
WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 1, 2010
SECTION B

BOOKS

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4400 Bens View Lane
281-360-6804

"TODDLER TIME" entertains children ages 18 months to two years with finger puppet plays and storytimes. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

"THRILLING THURSDAY" helps entertain children with games and craft activities to off-set the chance of a boring afternoon. Thursdays, 4 p.m.

"Fabulous Friday at the Movies" brings children of all ages together for a night in Hollywood with a movie viewing. Fridays, 4 p.m.

Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, December 29, 2010, Page 5C

A BRIEF LOOK BACK AT 2010

APRIL - NEW LIBRARY OPENS IN KINGWOOD

The grand opening of the new Harris County branch library in Kingwood was met with enthusiasm by members of the community, branch employees and local officials alike. Accommodating about 400 visitors at a time, the upper level of the newly built structure on Bens Branch Drive is dedicated to teens and children,

while the main level of the facility accommodates adult reading and resources. The environmentally and energy-friendly library, constructed within approximately four months, also features a book resale shop and a teen interactive area. The library celebrated its grand opening to the public April 19.

DIVERSIONS

Wednesday, December 29, 2010
observereditor@hcnonline.com
www.YourKingwoodNews.co

LIBRARY PAVERS

The Friends of the Kingwood Library is offering residents the opportunity to leave a permanent commemorative icon at the library to make a positive and lasting impact on the community. Engraved pavers can be purchased in the name of someone special and will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. For a contribution of \$150, pavers display an inscription of up to three lines with 16 characters per line, including spaces. For more information, call 281-360-5844 or 281-360-5261. Mail contributions to Friends of the Library Kingwood, 2915 Deer Hollow, Kingwood 77345 or

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The Tribune Newspapers

January 17, 2011

(e-edition)

GLUTEN-FREE LIVING

On Saturday, January 15 at 10 a.m., local Kingwood resident Jenny Johnson will present a program about gluten-free living. She will provide free

handouts of sample recipes! This class is free and open to the public. No registration is required. If you have questions you may call the library at 281-360-6804.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The Kingwood Branch Library, a branch of the Harris County Public Library, is offering computer classes in January. These classes are free and open to the public.

Registration is required for each class.

Introduction to MS EXCEL 2007. This 1.5 hour class is scheduled for Thursday, January 6, from 12:30- 2 p.m. A repeat class will be held on Monday, January 10, from 6:30-8 pm. Excel is an electronic spreadsheet program that can be used for storing, organizing and manipulating data. Registration is required for each class.

Using the Internet in Your Job Search. Knowledge of keyboarding and using a mouse is preferred but not required. Ms. Josie Toth, with Workforce Solutions, will teach this class. In it, you will learn to use the computer in your job search. This class will be held Tuesday, January 11, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. Registration is required.

Finding Information in HCPL's Databases. Access a wealth of information from the library's online databases. Learn how to research for business, academic or personal knowledge. This two-hour class is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. Registration is required.

Organizing Websites. Have you wanted to get organized this new year but are not sure where to start? Come hear Ellen Delap, a professional organizer, show you how to find helpful organizing websites. This class is offered on Tuesday, January 25, from 1-2:30 pm and requires registration.

Writing Your Resume on the Computer. Josie Toth, with Workforce

Solutions, will speak about how to write your resume on the computer. This class will be held on Thursday, January 27, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. Registration is required.

Space is limited on these classes and registration is required. Please call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 to register or come to the library's second floor to register.

MOTHER GOOSE LAPSIT

Mother Goose Lapsit is designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays, and songs. Thursdays at 11 a.m. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

TODDLER TIME

The program is individualized for children 18 months to 3 years. Sign-up required. Call library for further information: 281-360-6804. Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Everyone welcome. Designed for 3-6 year old children, but all are welcome. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

LIBRARY PAVERS

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Kingwood Library 4400 Bens View Lane 281-360-6804

Toddler Time entertains children ages 18 months to two years with finger puppet plays and storytimes. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. "Thrilling Thursday" helps entertain children with games and craft activities to off-set the chance of a boring afternoon. Thursdays, 4 p.m. "Fabulous Friday at the Movies" brings children of all ages together for a night in Hollywood with a movie viewing. Fridays, 4 p.m.

FOLK purchases security cameras for the Kingwood Branch Library

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

The Friends of the Library Kingwood group recently purchased security cameras to enhance the security at the new Kingwood Library. The cameras are intended to be a deterrent to those who are inclined to commit crimes or vandalism at the library. Customers and staff should feel safer with the new cameras around the building entrances and parking lot.

FOLK is a nonprofit orga-

nization that raises money to provide support that enhances the overall quality of the library through sales of donated used books and magazines at a nominal cost in their bookstore just off the lobby of the new library.

Funds are also raised through the FOLK Fund Raising Campaign and through membership sales. FOLK members receive a 10 percent discount on purchases in the bookstore. Family memberships are \$20 for the year April 1, 2011, through March 31, 2012.

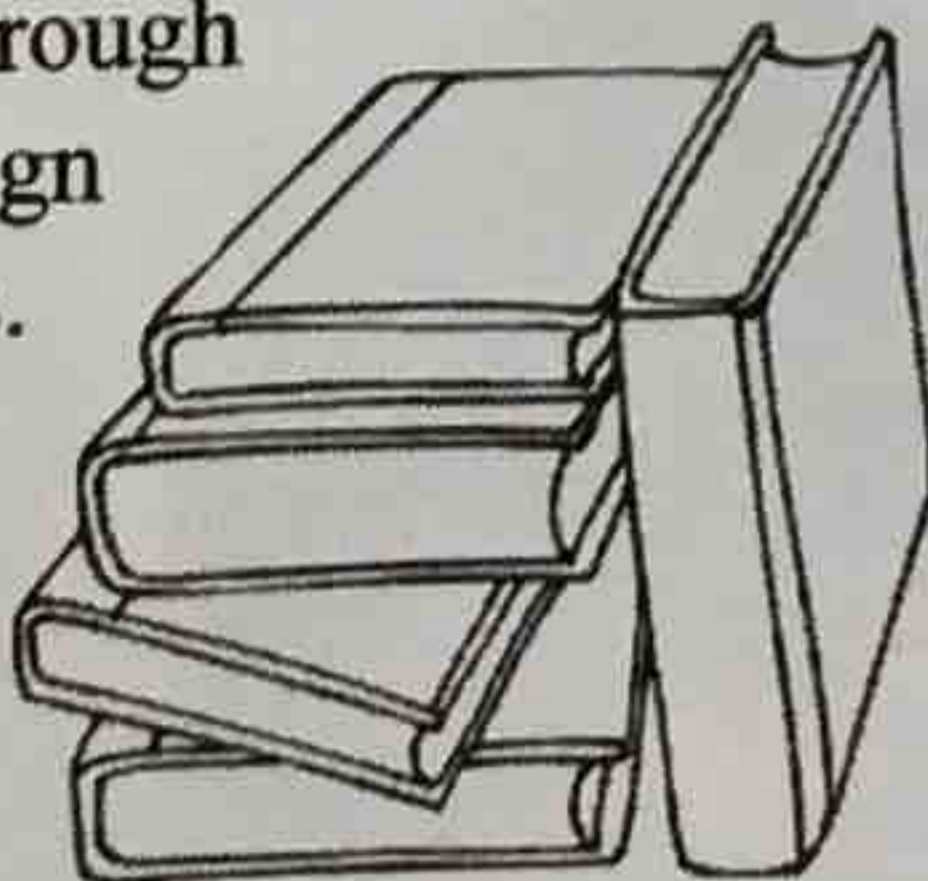
FOLK has provided more than \$125,000 in support to the library this past year in the form of book purchases; specialty furnishings in children's and young adult areas; downloadable digital media (audio and e-books); video games and equipment; DVDs; art and craft supplies; continuing education; and children's, young adult and adult program support.

Additional information can be found on the FOLK website at kingwoodfolk.org.

FOLK Purchases Security Cameras for Kingwood Library

The Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) group recently purchased security cameras to enhance the security at the new Kingwood Library. The cameras are intended to be a deterrent to those who are inclined to commit crimes or vandalism at the library. Customers and staff should feel safer with the new cameras around the building entrances and parking lot.

FOLK is a non-profit organization that raises money to provide support that enhances the overall quality of the library through sales of donated used books and magazines at a nominal cost in their bookstore just off the lobby of the new library. Additionally, FOLK sells used books that have a higher resale value on Amazon.com. Funds are also raised through the FOLK Fund Raising Campaign and through membership sales. FOLK members receive a 10% discount on purchases in the bookstore. Family memberships are \$20 for the year April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.



FOLK has provided more than \$125,000 in support to the library this past year in the form of book purchases, specialty furnishings in children's & young adult areas, downloadable digital media (audio & e-books), video games and equipment, DVD's, art & craft supplies, continuing education, and children's, young adult & adult program support.

Additional information can be found on the FOLK website at kingwoodfolk.org.

www.forestimage.com

Celebrations

LIFE'S SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.HCNcelebrations.com

ions
NCEMENTS
ons.com

The Forest Image, Spring 2011, page 41



FOTOLIA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2011

The Tribune

KINGWOOD LIBRARY BOOK GROUP
The Kingwood Library Book Group will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, Jan. 31. The group will discuss 'A Separate Peace' by John Knowles. This classic coming-of-age novel's setting is in a prep school during World War II. This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

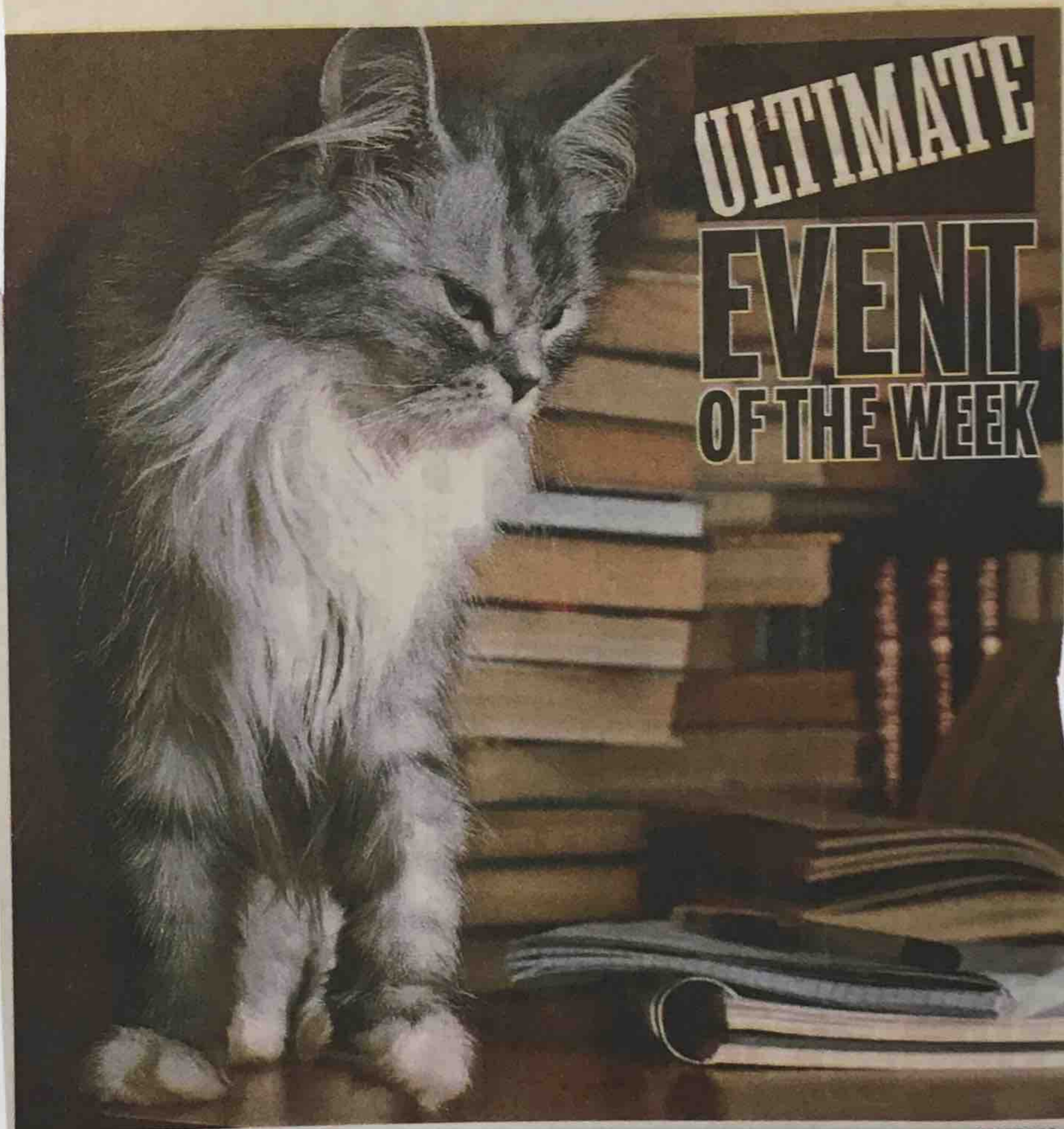
Organize your life

Certified professional organizer and family manager coach Ellen Delap will discuss using websites to find what you need to declutter and maintain a home or office.

WHERE: Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane

WHEN: 1-2 p.m. Jan. 25

INFORMATION: Call 281-360-6804. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is required.



**ULTIMATE
EVENT
OF THE WEEK**

FOTOLIA

Book club

The Kingwood Library Book Group invites residents to attend its monthly meeting. The group will discuss "A Separate Peace" by John Knowles. This coming-of-age novel's setting is in a prep school during World War II.

WHERE: Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane

WHEN: 7 p.m. Jan. 31

INFORMATION: Call 281-360-6804 or send an e-mail to awyrick@hcpl.net



FEBRUARY 2011

Best Investments Siding and
Windows -

Your home is your
best investment
- See Page 6

Dock Line

Magazine - Kingwood Edition

The Magazine About Life on the Water's Edge

FOLK'S BOOKSTORE KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

As more library patrons get MP3 players or ebook readers, the downloadable digital media is a much better way to access the books they enjoy. Harris County Public Library is taking advantage of this new format through Overdrive, software that is accessed through the library's website, downloaded to your computer at home and then transferred to your device of choice. You can then borrow digital media from the library. Patrons can access the HCPL Digital Media Catalog at www.hcpl.net.

The Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) has recognized the growth of this option and has generously donated \$10,000.00 to HCPL to increase the selection of items available. The presentation was made on December 14, 2010 when Overdrive brought their Downloadable Digital Bookmobile to the Kingwood Branch Library for a day-long demonstration of this new and exciting media.

Downloadable media encompasses audio, video and electronic books. The growth of ebooks alone has been phenomenal. Nationwide, over \$91 million was spent on ebooks in the first quarter of 2010 and Amazon has reported that ebooks are outselling hardcover books.

With regards to audio formats, a scratched, broken or lost disc can mean that the library must discard, for example, an entire 13-disc book, as it is unusable. One that is downloaded does not have those issues to deal with and is a much better value.



FOLK members Emily Maas, Connie Jaeger, Christi Whittington (Branch Librarian) and Carolyn Humphrey present \$10,000.00 to the Harris County Public Library for downloadable digital media.

BOOKS

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

Bring your knitting needles and yarn and join us for a pleasant evening.

WEEKLY STORYTIMES:

Thursdays at 11 a.m. Mother Goose Lapsit - designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger-plays, and songs.

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Toddler Time is individualized for children 18 months up to 3 years. Sign-up required.

Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. Toddler Time is individualized for children 18 months up to 3 years. Sign-up required.

Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m. Preschool Storytime - designed for 3-6 year old children, but all are welcome.

Sign up for space-available April Toddler Times March 28-April 4.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Mysterious Monday After-School Craft - 4-5 p.m.

Crafts and activities for school aged kids; every Monday.

Fabulous Friday at the Movies - 4 p.m.

Movie and popcorn every Friday.

Thrilling Thursday - Mar. 3 - 4 p.m.

ZoomAtomic for Kids.

Thrilling Thursday - Mar. 10 - 4 p.m.

Dragoneers Book club - Read a Fantasy Book.

Thrilling Thursday - Mar. 17 4 p.m.

Make your own Kissing Blarney Stone.

Thrilling Thursday - Mar. 24 - 4 p.m.

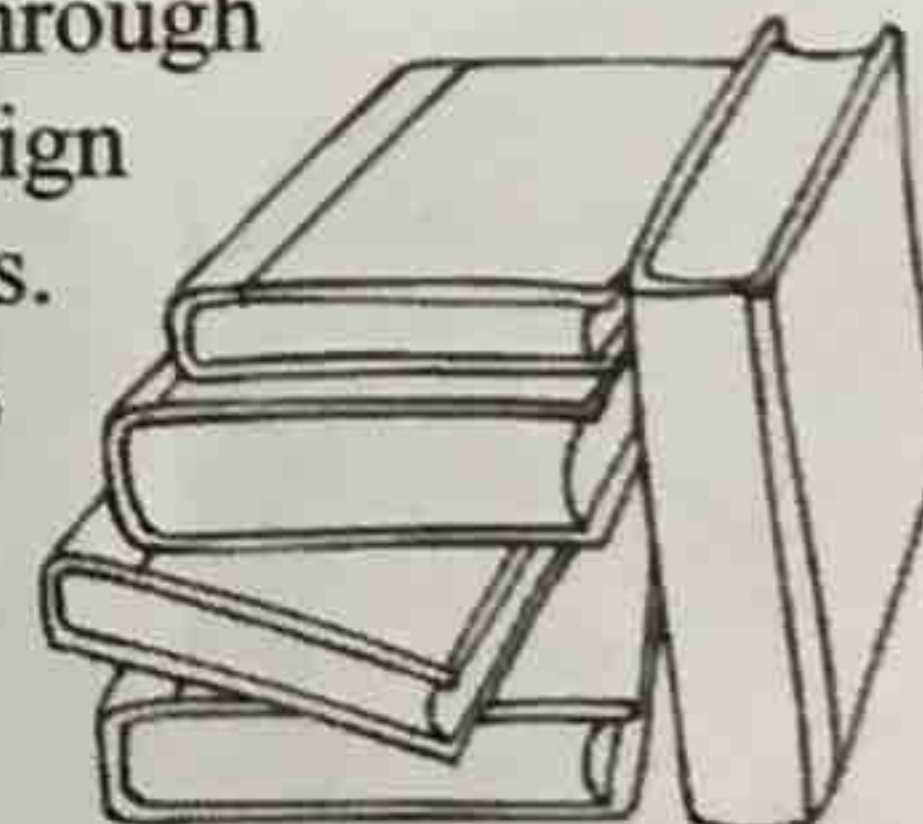
Dragoneers meeting.

All programs are free and open to the public. For more information call the Kingwood Branch Library at 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net

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Additional information can be found on the FOLK website at kingwoodfolk.org.

www.forestimage.com

The Forest Image, Spring 2011,

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Pre-school Craft
March 17, 10:30 a.m. and
2:20 p.m.
St. Patrick's Day Craft

Ongoing:
■ Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 4 p.m.
After-school crafts and activ-
ities for school-aged children.
■ Fabulous Friday at the
Movies
Fridays, 4 p.m.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400
Bens View Lane. For more
information, call 281-360-6804
or log on to www.hcpl.net.

There will be movie and
popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday
Thursdays, 4 p.m.
• March 10 - Dragoners
Book Club - Read a fantasy
book.
• March 17 - Craft - Kissing
Blarney Stone
• March 24 - Dragoners

meeting

TEEN PROGRAMS

Ongoing:
■ Video gaming
Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
All teens ages 12-18 are invit-
ed weekly to play the video game
"Rock Band" at the library after
school in the meeting room.
Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or
drum set with friends and show
off your skills as a virtual rock
star. Teens can also play on the

library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ AARP Tax Help
Wednesdays through April
13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
AARP will be available in the
downstairs Community Room
to provide to the public free as-
sistance with income tax prepa-
ration. All other library services
will be closed to the public.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL

AGES

■ "Check It Out"
This is an ongoing video
program that allows all who use
the library to tell others about a
book or other library item that
they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit
Thursdays, 11 a.m.
Designed for children 0-18
months and their parents.

Sign-ups required. Program in-
cludes nursery rhymes, finger
plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time
Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15
a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.
Program is individualized
for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-
ups required.

■ Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and
2:20 p.m.
Designed for 3-6-year-old
children, but all are welcome.
Sign-ups required.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

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March 17, 10:30 a.m. and
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2:20 p.m.
Designed for 3-6-year-old
children, but all are welcome.
Sign-ups required.

The Tribune Newspapers - SPECIAL EDITION

March 15, 2011

Charity League donates to FOLK

Livable Forest Chapter of the National Charity League recently held a book drive to benefit the Friends of the Library Kingwood used bookstore. It was a HUGE success and very much appreciated by FOLK. Ela Ghica and Gayle Howell, co-chair liaisons of the Livable Forest Chapter, delivered hundreds of books to a very grateful bookstore manager, Frances M. Pelham. Volunteers staff the used bookstore by sorting, organizing and selling the books. Proceeds from book sales are then used to enhance the overall quality of the Kingwood Branch Library. Most recently FOLK has purchased security cameras and downloadable media such as audio, video and electronic books for the library.



Frances M. Pelham, FOLK's Used Bookstore Manger, gratefully accepts book donations from Nick and Ela Ghica. Ela is the Co-Chair Liaison of the Livable Forest Chapter of the National Charity League.

Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, Page 15A

FOLK RECEIVES GRANT FROM WALMART



Sandra Hibbits, manager of the Walmart Neighborhood Market in Kingwood, presents a \$675 check to Carolyn Humphrey, left, and Connie Jaeger, right, of Friends of the Library Kingwood. Humphrey is president and Jaeger is special projects chairman of FOLK, which will use the funds to purchase items that will enhance the overall quality of the Kingwood Branch Library.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

- **Mysterious Mondays**
Mondays, 4 p.m.
After-school crafts and activities for school-aged children.
- **Fabulous Friday at the Movies**
Fridays, 4 p.m.
There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.
- **Thrilling Thursday**
Thursdays, 4 p.m.
 - March 24 - Dragoners meeting

TEEN PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

- **Video gaming**
Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- **Blogging Basics**
Tuesday, March 29, 10:30

a.m.-noon

This class offers blogging tips, hints and tools for beginner bloggers. Registration is required.

■ FOLK Membership Drive

Friends of the Library Kingwood is having a membership drive for the year beginning April 1, 2011, and ending March 31, 2012. The \$20 annual fee entitles members to a 10 percent discount on purchases in the FOLK Used Bookstore. All membership fees and used book sales directly benefit the Kingwood Library.

■ AARP Tax Help

Wednesdays through April 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

AARP will be available in the downstairs Community Room to provide to the public free assistance with income tax preparation. All other library services will be closed to the public.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

■ Volunteers needed

The library is searching for adult and teen volunteers to help with shelving and other duties. Morning and afternoon schedules are available. Re-

quirements for volunteers are that they are 15 years or older, able to push fully-loaded book carts, able to commit to help out two hours per week, and must be able to bend and lift accordingly.

■ "Check It Out"

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

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■ Toddler Time

Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15 a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

■ Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. Sign-ups required.

LANDMARK AWARDS

COMMUNITY IMPACT • FINALISTS

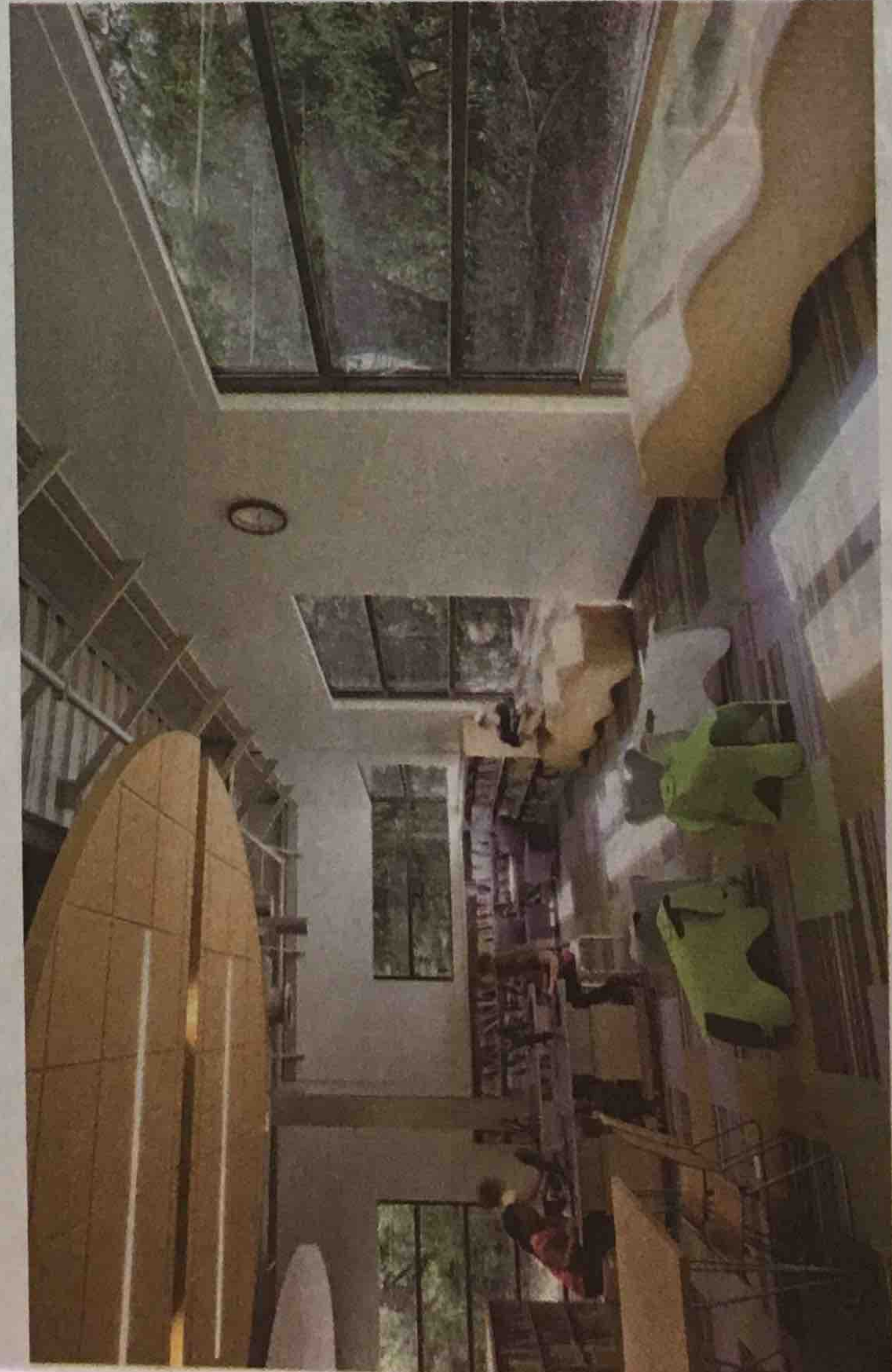


PHOTO COURTESY OF KIRKSEY ARCHITECTURE

Kingwood Branch Library

4400 Bens View Lane
Kingwood, Texas 77339

Upon its completion in spring 2010, the new, 30,000-square-foot Kingwood Branch Library quickly became a hub for civic and community activities.

A joint venture between Harris County and the city of Houston brought

about the state-of-the-art, \$6 million facility, which earned a LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. An education program informs visitors about the sustainable aspects of the project, which include comfortable seating, natural light and views of the surrounding forest area. The project replaced the original and aging Kingwood Branch Library, built in 1984.

Equipped with 146 computers for public use, meeting rooms for area organizations and video conference capabilities, the library branch houses 120,000 traditional library materials.

Because the city and county combined resources, the larger, more high-end facility prevented the duplication of services from two different agencies. Funding for construction and the site of the two-story library came from the city of Houston, while Harris County provides operational costs and furnishing expenses.

DEALMAKERS

DEVELOPER: City of Houston

ARCHITECT: Kirksey Architecture

CIVIL ENGINEER: Klotz Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: SpawGlass Construction Corp.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Kudela & Weinheimer LP

MEP ENGINEER: Infrastructure Associates Inc.

PROJECT MANAGER: City of Houston, General Services Department

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Henderson + Rogers Inc.

Library celebrates one year

BY GAVIE VALERIO

Tribune Correspondent

In celebration of its one year anniversary, the Kingwood Branch Library invited the community to enjoy cake and punch, partake in children festivities and highlight the new amenities the library has to offer Tuesday, April 19.

Serving the community since 1983, the Kingwood Branch Library relocated in 2010 into its new building to expand their space as well as to offer more programs for its growing circulation.

"It's been positive," Christi Whittington, branch librarian, said about the community's reaction to the new library. "The community has always supported the library. It's a real friendly feeling between the community and staff, and it's always been kind of special."

With the celebration of the library's "birthday" in the new building, numerous parents and their children attended story times, where the books had a birthday and Easter theme as well as arts and crafts time and also enjoyed the atmosphere of the children's library.

"We come to the library every few weeks," community mother, Fran Koiner, said about attending the activity with her daughter Zoe. "She

likes to look at the books and pull them off the shelves and see what's here. She picks a lot of them out herself."

The children also got the opportunity to interact with each other and the staff during arts and crafts, making flower pots where they could plant and grow a "snack," Connie Dye, the children's librarian said.

Designing, assembling and filling their homemade pots with soil and seeds, the children were eager and excited to see what they could grow.

After story time, parents helped themselves and their children to cake and punch provided by F.O.L.K, or friends of the library Kingwood who support all the library's endeavors including funding for programming and books, and explored the children's library and all that it offered. "We love the children's computers," Sabrina Seiler, a mother new to the Kingwood community said. "The kids can learn and also get interested in books. The people here are really nice and accommodating too."

In addition to the children's computers, which exclusively contain children's educational programs, the section also presents carpeted reading areas as well as tables and window seating

where visitors of the library can take in the view of Kingwood's "livable forest." "The architects incorporated Kingwoods environment, envisioning the new building as a library tree house," Whittington said. "They succeeded in doing that."

Also in keeping with nature, the new library was built to be a LEED, leadership in energy and environmental design, certified building having much of the materials used come from recyclables as well as efficient and water-saving plumbing.

Not only does the library accommodate for young children, but it also offers sections for teens and young adults with their own separate areas for computers and a game room with Wii and Playstation 3 game consoles. It sees a lot of traffic after school with children aging anywhere from 12 to 18, Whittington said.

As for adults, the library offers multiple rooms to study quietly, computer labs once or twice a week that teach different programs such as Facebook or Microsoft office and ESL, English as a second language, classes.

"We're excited to be celebrating our first year in the new building," Whittington said. I think they've [the community] appreciated it [the building]."

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

- Mysterious Mondays

Mondays, 4 p.m.

After-school crafts and activities for school-aged children.

- Fabulous Friday at the Movies

Fridays, 4 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

- Thrilling Thursday

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

- April 21 - Wii for kids
- April 28 - Dragoners meeting

TEEN PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

- Video gaming

Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.

All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- FOLK Membership Drive

Friends of the Library Kingwood is having a membership drive for the year beginning April 1, 2011, and ending March 31, 2012. The \$20 annual fee entitles members to a 10 percent discount on purchases in the FOLK Used Bookstore. All membership fees and used book sales directly benefit the Kingwood Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

- Volunteers needed

The library is searching for adult and teen volunteers to help with shelving and other duties. Morning and afternoon schedules are available. Requirements for volunteers are

that they are 15 years or older, able to push fully-loaded book carts, able to commit to help out two hours per week, and must be able to bend and lift accordingly.

- "Check It Out"

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

- Mother Goose Lapsit
Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Sign-ups required. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

- Toddler Time

Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15 a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

- Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. Sign-ups required.

Library Anniversary Celebration at Kingwood Branch Library

Kingwood Branch Library, a Harris County Public Library, invites you to celebrate its first anniversary on Tuesday, April 19. The library will offer special events for children and will serve cake and punch all day! Please join us between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. for the festivities.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Preschool Craft

May 26, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays

Mondays, 4 p.m.

After-school crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies

Fridays, 4 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

• May 5 - ZoomAtomic for Kids

• May 12 - Dragoners book

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

club

• May 19 - Hawaiian Party with Hawaiian food, music, crafts and games

• May 26 - Dragoners' last meeting of the school year. There will be a party; everyone is welcome.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

■ Video gaming

Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.

All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

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rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time

Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15 a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

■ Waddlers Storytime

Tuesdays, 3:15 p.m.

Designed for children from about 1 year to about 18 months. No registration is needed.

■ Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. Sign-ups required.

KAPPAS FOCUS ON LITERACY



Submitted photo

The philanthropy of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Association of the Kingwood area is focused on literacy, as evidenced by Reading is Fundamental, the sorority's national philanthropy. So when the new Kingwood Branch Library was built, it was a natural for the association to donate \$2,500 to the Friends of the Library Kingwood using proceeds from its annual caladium bulb sales. Local Kappa alums, from left, Joan Hayes, treasurer; Betsy Birkett, secretary; Judy Black, president; and Ann Gibbins, Ways and Means, met recently in the library foyer in front of the Donor Recognition Wall, which honors donors of \$1,000 and

Harris County Public Library kicks off Summer Reading F

Don't sit at home and be bored this summer! Harris County Public Library

kicks off its 2011 Summer Reading Program, Dig up a Good Book, for the whole family on June 3. Sign up for one of three free programs for children, teens or adults, at any of the 26 library branches

across Harris County or online at the eBranch. Visit us at www.hcpl.net to see all activities that are offered throughout the summer.

"We have been planning all year for this!" said Stephanie Borgman, HCPL Children's Specialist. "Every branch library presents

exciting programs and activities. We encourage families to visit the branches in their areas to make sure they don't miss any of the fun!" "Summer reading is for adults too!" said Elaine Plotkin, HCPL's Adult Specialist. Print, audio or eBook you can always "Dig

up a Good Book." HCPL has developed what is sure to be an outstanding summer program for all ages that runs from June 3-August 6.

Readers in the Children's and Teens' reading programs need to complete 5 hours

Children who complete the program will earn a free book and Teens who complete the program will earn a flash drive bracelet while supplies last. Readers in the adults' program need to read or listen to 4 books to complete the program. One adult reader completes the

program will be selected to win a \$50 Amazon gift card and there will be a random drawing from all adult readers completing the program for grand prize winners.

For more information, please contact: Linda Stevens at 713-749-9000 or lstevens@hcpl.net.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Preschool Craft
May 26, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 4 p.m.
After-school crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies
Fridays, 4 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

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TEEN PROGRAMS

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KINGWOOD LIBRARY

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ADULT PROGRAMS

The library is offering the following computer classes:

■ Databases
Tuesday, May 31, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Access a wealth of information from the library's online databases. Learn how to research for business, academic or personal knowledge.

Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required. Call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 or come to the library's second floor to register.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

■ Volunteers needed
The library is searching for adult and teen volunteers to help with shelving and other duties. Morning and afternoon schedules are available. Requirements for volunteers are that they are 15 years or older, able to push fully-loaded book carts, able to commit to help

out two hours per week, and must be able to bend and lift accordingly.

■ "Check It Out"

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit
Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents. Sign-ups required. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time
Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15 a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

■ Waddlers Storytime
Tuesdays, 3:15 p.m.

Designed for children from about 1 year to about 18 months. No registration is needed.

■ Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. Sign-ups required.

Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, May 25, 2011

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Domino's Dough Re Me
June 9, 2:15 and 3:30 p.m.
Free tickets are available beginning June 3. Recommended for school-aged children.

■ Dance, Dance Revolution

June 16, 2:15 p.m.

■ Annual Variety Show
June 23, 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Free tickets are available beginning June 17. Recommended for children 4 and older.

■ Pirate Party

June 27, 2:15 p.m.

■ Steve Burton Magic Show

June 30, 2:15 p.m.

Free tickets are available beginning June 23. Recommended for school-aged children.

Children in ticketed programs should be able to sit unaccompanied for 45 minutes.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 2:15 p.m.

Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies

Fridays, 2:15 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday
Thursdays, 2:15 p.m.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required. Call the library's Adult Services Department at 281-360-6804 or come to the library's second floor to register.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

■ Volunteers needed

The library is searching for adult and teen volunteers to help with shelving and other duties. Morning and afternoon schedules are available. Requirements for volunteers are that they are 15 years or older, able to push fully-loaded book carts, able to commit to help out two hours per week, and must be able to bend and lift accordingly.

■ "Check It Out"

This is an ongoing video program that allows all who use the library to tell others about a book or other library item that they recently enjoyed.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit
Thursdays, 11 a.m.

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Tuesdays, 10 and 11:15 a.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Sign-ups required.

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■ Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all are welcome. Sign-ups required.

■ Can You Dig It?

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

Summer read-aloud for school-age children - ends Aug. 9.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

■ Video gaming

Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.

All teens ages 12-18 are invited weekly to play the video game "Rock Band" at the library after school in the meeting room. Grab a mic, guitar, bass guitar or drum set with friends and show off your skills as a virtual rock star. Teens can also play on the library's Nintendo Wii.

ADULT PROGRAMS

The library is offering the following computer classes:

■ Genealogy

Thursday, June 16, 10 a.m.-noon

Guest presenter Karen Rasmussen will offer tips and information on the wonderful world of discovery that is genealogy in the computer training lab.

Kingwood Area Republican Women makes donation to Kingwood Branch Library

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observereditor@hcnonline.com

The Kingwood Library has been the recipient of numerous books donated by Kingwood Area Republican Women over the years in keeping with the club's commitment to improve literacy. KARW recently donated eight books in honor of speakers at their meetings and in memory of beloved former members of the club.

Head librarian Christi Whittington graciously accepted the following books which were a part of the Barbara Bush Literacy Library Project and the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project:

■ "The Nightingale of Mosul" by Susan Luz – in honor of speaker 'Borah Van Dornmolen, GOP national committeewoman

■ "Turtle" by Roy R. Manstan and Frederic J. Frese – in honor of speaker Judge David Farr

■ "Known and Unknown" by Donald Rumsfeld – in honor of speaker Melinda Fredricks, Texas GOP vice chairman

■ "Animal Colony" by Thomas Allen Rexroth and Mark Andrew Olsen – in honor of speaker Mark Olsen

■ "The Signers" by Dennis Brindell Fradin – in memory of Len Leofsky, past treasurer of KARW

■ "An American Life" by Ronald Reagan – in memory of Wanda Hudson, past president of KARW



Submitted photo

Kingwood Area Republican Women recently donated eight books to the Kingwood Library. Seated from left are KARW members Nancy Fulton, Alice Rekeweg and Betty Newton; standing are members Marian Manchack, Skippy Lupton, Kingwood librarian Christi Whittington and member Halene Crossman.

■ "Reagan In His Own Hand" by Kiron K. Skinner, Annelise Anderson and Martin Anderson – in memory of Marguerite Binkley, past president of KARW

■ "Reagan's Path to Victory" by Kiron K. Skinner, Annelise Anderson and Martin Anderson – in memory of Dixie Foster, past president of KARW

Kingwood Area Republican Women meets the third

Wednesday at Kingwood Country Club, except during the summer. The group's next meeting will be a special event on the evening of Sept. 21 featuring Republican candidates for United States Senate.

For more information about this award-winning political club, contact Betty Newton, president, at 281-360-1125 or kingwoodarearepublicanwomen@gmail.com.

**KINGWOOD LIBRARY
HOLDS MASSAGE
THERAPY WORKSHOP**

On Tuesday, July 12, at 10:30 a.m., massage therapist Nina Ward will present a massage therapy workshop at Kingwood Branch Library. The workshop will cover the benefits of massage therapy as well as simple self-practicing techniques to reduce stress and relieve pain at home. This program will be held in the meeting room on the first floor. Kingwood Branch Library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit the library or call 281-360-6804.



HI NEIGHBOR CLUB-KINGWOOD

Hi Neighbor Club donation

HONORING the leaders of Hi Neighbor Club-Kingwood, president Vicky Williams and parliamentarian Karen Stevens recently presented the Kingwood Branch Library with a new portable public address system. With this donation, the library will no longer have to borrow a public address system when they host special events. Shown, from left, are Friends of the Library president Carolyn Humphrey, Stevens, Williams and Kingwood Branch librarian Christi Whittington.

Houston Chron 7/28/11

KINGWOOD

**Book sale
planned at
library branch**

The Friends of the Library Kingwood is planning its Back-To-School Sale for the week of Aug. 15-21 at the Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane.

Children's books, teacher materials and classics/poetry/drama/plays will be half-price during the week of the sale.

In addition, all books will be discounted 10 percent, which is the discount residents would receive if they were a FOLK member. Timing of the Back-To-School Sale is meant to give students, teachers and families bargain prices on the books they need for the upcoming school year. All sales benefit the Kingwood Branch Library.

Residents are urged to donate their used teacher materials, children's books and classics/poetry/drama/plays. The FOLK Used Bookstore is located to the left of the main entrance of the library and is open daily except Sunday and Wednesday.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Pre-school Craft

Thursday, Sept. 22, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays

Mondays, Sept. 19 and 26, 4 p.m.

Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies

Fridays, 4 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday

Thursdays, 4 p.m. - Activities for school-aged children

■ Dragoneers Club

Second and fourth Thursday, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thursday, Dragoneers will have activities, crafts or programs.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Family Law & More

Monday, Sept. 19, 1:30 p.m.

Family lawyer Stephen Byers will shed light on typical issues and processes relating to family law, wills and probate laws. This program is free and open to the public and will be held in the first floor meeting room. Registration is not required.

meet in the conference room or training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required as space is limited.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit

Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years.

Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

■ Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

■ Make-up tips for Ladies

Thursday, Sept. 29, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Mary Kay representative Louisa Oeding will present tips and tricks on giving yourself a fresh makeover in time for fall. This informational program is free and open to the public and will be held in the first floor meeting room.

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:

- Basic Internet

Friday, Sept. 16, 2:30 p.m.

- Intro to Word 2007

Monday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

- Library Databases

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 10:30 a.m.

- Organize Your Websites

Friday, Sept. 23, 2:30 p.m.

- Intro to Email

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 10:30 a.m.

- Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog

Friday, Sept. 30, 2:30 p.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

■ Workforce Solutions is offering the following workshops for job seekers:

- Networking and Online Search Tips

Tuesday, Sept. 20 1-3 p.m.

These classes are free and open to the public. Classes

WEEK OF JULY 28-AUGUST 3, 2011

Z2

Thursday Supplement Houston Chronicle



JERRY BAKER: FOR THE CHRONICLE

Kingwood Library receives two flags flown over the capitols



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Boy Scouts raise the United States and Texas flags on the poles outside of Kingwood Library. The flags were donated to the library by Congressman Ted Poe and state Rep. Dan Huberty after they were flown over each respective capitol in honor of the library.

By JENNIFER SUMMER
jsummer@hcnonline.com

Two flags flown over the Texas Capitol and at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. now grace the flagpoles outside the Kingwood Library.

Congressman Ted Poe and state Rep. Dan Huberty donated the flags which were presented to branch librarian Christie Whittington in a ceremony July 25.

"This means a lot to us, and we are excited to have both flags on display in front of the library," Whittington said at the ceremony.

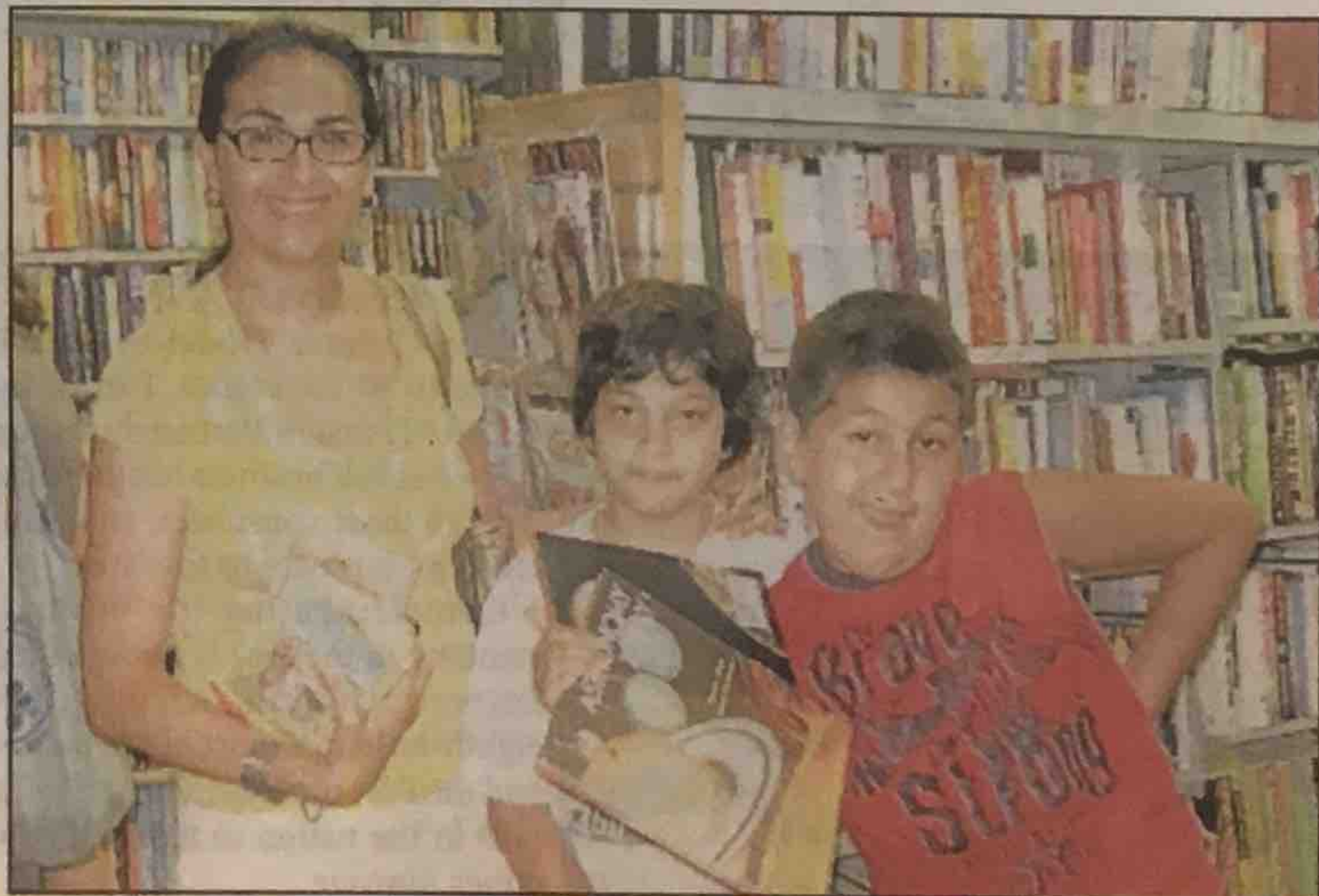
To present the colors, Boy Scout Troop 3377 was on hand to raise the flags and lead the crowd gathered at flag poles in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Texas and the United States flags were flown over the capitols in honor of the library.

Page 12A, Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, August 31, 2011

FOLK HOSTS BACK-TO-SCHOOL BOOK SALE

Submitted photo
Maria and Diego Saldana and Calvin Garcia, right, attend the Friends of the Library Kingwood Back-to-School Used Book Sale in August. Maria was purchasing books she read as a youngster, like "Little House on the Prairie." Calvin, who was visiting from Dallas, found books he was looking for on planets. All proceeds from the FOLK Used Bookstore benefit the Kingwood Branch Library. For more information, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org.



FAMILY LAW AND MORE AT KINGWOOD LIBRARY

Are you unclear about law terminology? Do you have questions about family law issues and the like? If so, stop by the Kingwood Libaray Monday, Sept. 19, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. as family lawyer Stephen Byers will visit Kingwood Branch Library to shed light on typical issues and processes relating to family law, wills, and probate laws. This program is free and open to the public. This event will be held in the first floor meeting room. Registration is not required. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or visit them at 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood.

Page 12A, Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Wish List: How you can help

The Observer understands that these are difficult times for the nonprofits in our community. The need for help is increasing, while resources to help with are becoming harder to come by.

With that in mind, *The Observer* is looking for groups like yours to benefit. The Wish List is a section of the newspaper where people can find out where to donate items to organizations or people who need them.

If your nonprofit organization has a need for something, email us with the details at ob-

servernews@hcnonline.com. Please try to keep your list to five items or less. We will try to share at least three organizations each week.

■ **Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK)** needs donations of used books, especially children's books, non-fiction and cookbooks, for its bookstore at the Kingwood Branch Library at 4400 Bens View Lane.

For a list of acceptable book donations and to volunteer to work in the bookstore or to join FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org. Membership

fees and bookstore purchases benefit the Kingwood Library. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.

Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, September 28, 2011

LIBRARY PAVERS

The Friends of the Kingwood Library is offering residents the opportunity to leave a permanent commemorative icon at the library to make a positive and lasting impact on the community. Engraved pavers can be purchased in the name of someone special and will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. For a contribution of \$150, pavers display an inscription of up to three lines with 16 characters per line, including spaces. For more information, call 281-360-5844 or 281-360-5261. Mail contributions to Friends of the Library Kingwood, 2915 Deer Hollow, Kingwood 77345 or donate online at www.kingwoodfolk.org.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

have some fun.

■ **ZoombAtomic**
Oct. 6, 4 p.m.

Music, dance and energy for children 4-8 years old.

■ **PreSchool Craft**
Oct. 13, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20

p.m.

■ **Super Science Spectacular**
Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.

■ **Halloween**
Oct. 31, 4 p.m.

Children can wear their Halloween costumes and

■ **Dragoneers Club**

Second and fourth Thursday, Oct. 13 and Oct. 27, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thursday, Dragoneers will have activities, crafts or programs.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ The library is offering the

following computer classes:

• **iPad Orientation**

Friday, Oct. 7, 2:30 p.m.

• **Basic Computer**

Monday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.

• **Basic Computer**

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 10:30

a.m.

• **Facebook 101**

Friday, Oct. 14, 2:30 p.m.

• **Microsoft Word 2007**

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 10:30

a.m.

• **Google Overview**

Friday, Oct. 21, 2:30 p.m.

• **Open Lab**

Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m.

• **Microsoft Publisher 2007**

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 10:30

a.m.

• **Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog**

Friday, Oct. 28, 2:30 p.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

■ **Workforce Solutions** is offering the following workshops for job seekers:

• **Interviewing Tips**

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1-3 p.m.

• **Networking & Online Search Tips**

Tuesday, Oct. 18 1-3 p.m.

These classes are free and open to the public. Classes meet in the conference room or training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required as space is limited.

■ **Mother Goose Lapsit**
Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ **Toddler Time**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

■ **Preschool Storytime**

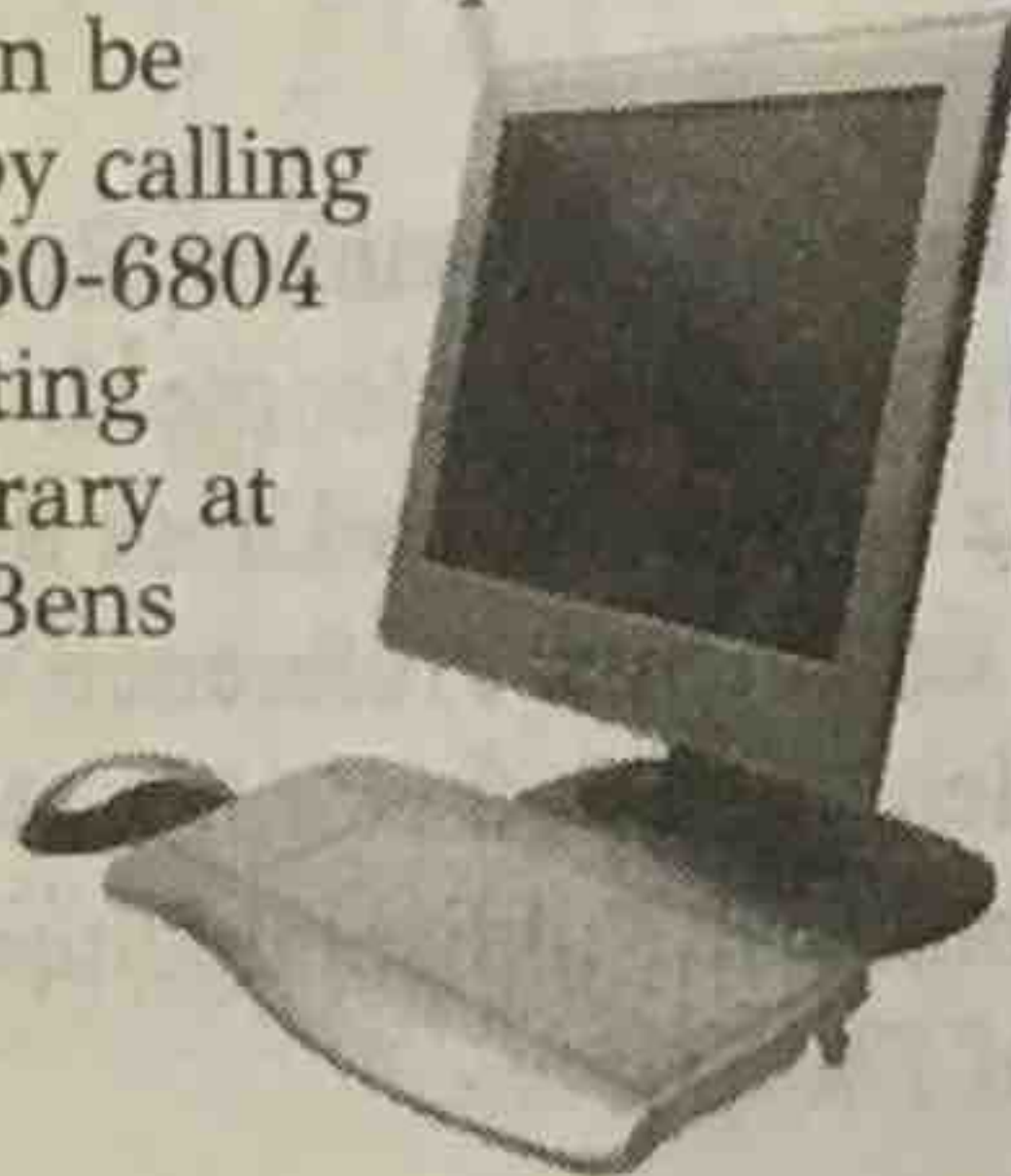
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

COMPUTER CLASSES AT KINGWOOD LIBRARY

For the month of October, Kingwood Branch Library is offering the following computer classes: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 10:30 a.m. - Microsoft Word 2007 Friday, Oct. 21, 2:30 p.m. - Google Overview Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m. - Open Lab Tuesday, Oct. 25, 10:30 a.m. - Microsoft Publisher 2007 Friday, Oct. 28, 2:30 p.m. - Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog All classes are free and open to the public. Classes are held in the training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required and can be done by calling 281-360-6804 or visiting the library at 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood.



Page 6A, Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, October 12, 2011

KINGWOOD LIBRARY RECEIVES NEIGHBORLY SUPPORT



Representatives from Friends of the Library Kingwood met with Kingwood Cracker Barrel managers on Wednesday, Oct. 5, to accept a \$1,000 donation check and two new signature Cracker Barrel Old Country Store rocking chairs. The Friends of the Library will use the money to help support ongoing library programs. Carolyn Humphrey, far left, president of Friends of the Library Kingwood, accepts the generous donation from general managers from the Kingwood Cracker Barrel.

Submitted photo

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

■ Halloween Oct. 31, 4 p.m. Children can wear their Halloween costumes and have some fun.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies Fridays, 4 p.m.

There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday Thursday, Oct. 20, 4 p.m. -

TEEN PROGRAMS

■ Teen Read Week Through Saturday, Oct. 22

Teens can submit an original re-design of their favorite book cover to be eligible for a prize. Works must be submitted during Teen Read Week in person to the library. The library will provide materials during the week for teens who wish to create their cover in the library. When submitting work, teens should include name, contact number, book title and book author of the book cover re-design on the back or on a separate sheet of paper.

■ Teen Craft: Sugar Skulls Monday, Oct. 24, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Teens are invited to decorate their own sugar skulls. All materials will be provided. The program is free and open to the public while supplies last. The program will be held in the Conference Room located on the second floor. Registration is required, as supplies are limited.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:

- Google Overview Friday, Oct. 21, 2:30 p.m.

Open Lab

Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m.

- Microsoft Publisher 2007 Tuesday, Oct. 25, 10:30 a.m.

- Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog Friday, Oct. 28, 2:30 p.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

Toddler Time

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit

Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

FOLK MAKES DONATION FOR ELECTRONIC BOOKS

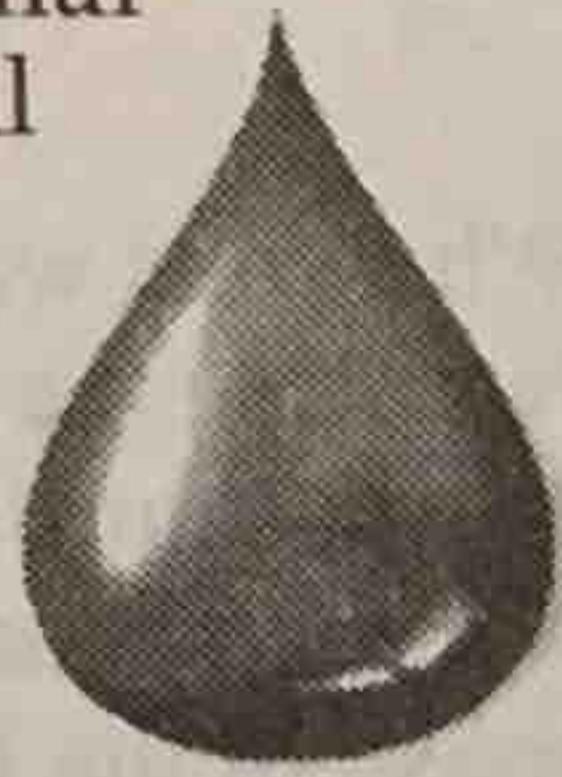


Submitted photo

The Friends of the Library Kingwood donated another \$10,000 in October to the Harris County Public Library to purchase downloadable digital media for a total of \$30,000 in the past year, giving library patrons more choices of electronic books, audio books and videos to borrow. The library's electronic books are now compatible with the Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader, Android and Apple products. Library patrons can access the HCPL Digital Media Catalog and necessary software at www.hcpl.net. The Harris County Public Library has the largest number of digital items in the state. From left are FOLK board members Emily Maas and Connie Jaeger, Kingwood Branch librarian Christi Whittington and FOLK President Carolyn Humphrey.

BLOOD DRIVE AT KINGWOOD LIBRARY

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be at Kingwood Branch Library on Monday, Nov. 21, from 3 - 7 p.m. to receive blood donations from the public. Kingwood Branch is located at 4400 Bens View Lane in Kingwood. Don't miss out on an opportunity to give the gift of life to those who need it. For more information please call 281-360-6804 or visit www.giveblood.org.



Check It Out!



KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4102 Rustic Woods Drive, is open Monday 1-9 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday 1-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED NOV. 23 - 26 FOR THANKSGIVING

Weekly story time: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 11 a.m. Mother Goose Lapsit Mother Goose Lapsit is designed for children 0-18 months and their parents.

Toddler story time: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 10 a.m. Program is individualized for children 18 months to 3 years.

Preschool story time: Tuesdays - 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Designed for 3 to 6-year-old children.

Family story time: Tuesdays - 4:30 p.m. All ages welcome. No sign-up required.



COMPUTER CLASSES

Friday, November 11, 2:30 p.m. - Slideshows & Collages

Tuesday, November 15, 10:30 p.m. - Microsoft Excel 2007

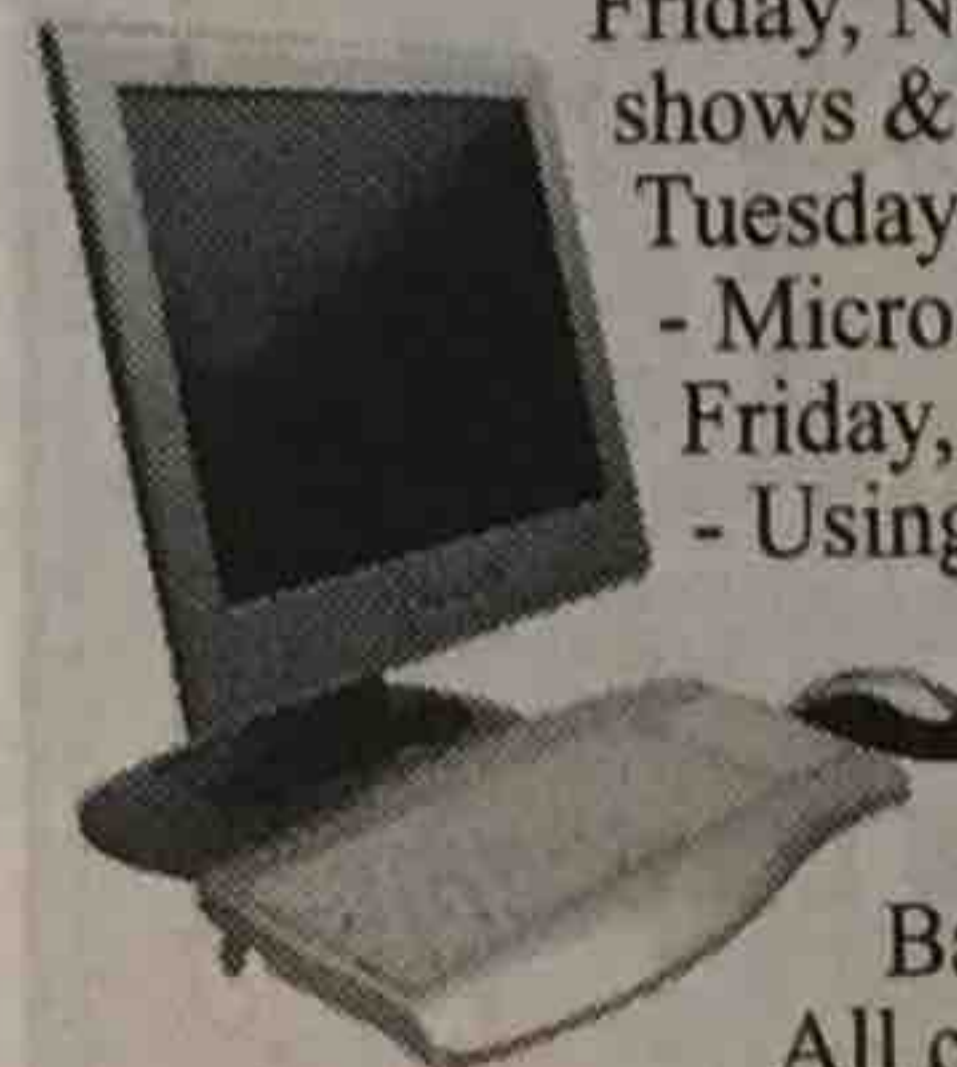
Friday, November 18, 2:30 p.m.

- Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog

Tuesday, November 29, 10:30 p.m. - Computer

Basics: Files & Folders

All classes are free and open to the public. Classes are held in the training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required and can be done by calling 281-360-6804 or visiting the library at 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood.



KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

The library will be closed Nov. 23-26 for Thanksgiving.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Preschool Craft

Thursday, Nov. 17, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Participants will make turkey placemats.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays

Mondays, 4 p.m.

Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Thrilling Thursday

Thursdays, 4 p.m. — Activities for school-aged children

• Nov. 17 - Yoga (ages 7 and up)

■ Dragoneers Club

Second and fourth Thursday, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thursday, Dragoneers will have activities, crafts or programs.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Positively Gluten Free

Thursday, Nov. 10, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Interested in gluten-free foods? Visitors will learn about the benefits of gluten-free cooking taught by Jenny Johnson. Free samples will be available for attendants.

■ Genealogy workshop

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10:30 a.m.

Mary Harrell-Sesniak will visit the library to talk about genealogy research in regards

to Ellis Island and Castle Garden, essential immigration entry points in American history. The program will take place in the Meeting Room located on the first floor; no registration is required.

■ Makeup Tips for the Holidays

Saturday, Nov. 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Mary Kay representative Louisa Oeding will present tips and tricks on giving yourself a fresh makeover in time for the holidays. The program will be held in the first floor Meeting Room.

■ Book Signing

Saturday, Nov. 19, 1-3 p.m.

Local author Cheryl Dickow will be available to sign copies of her book "Reclaiming Her Christian Self."

■ Blood Drive

Monday, Nov. 21, 3-7 p.m.

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be at the library to receive blood donations from the public. Call 281-360-6804 or visit the library to sign up for a donation time. Visit www.giveblood.org for more information.

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:

• Slideshows & Collages
Friday, Nov. 11, 2:30 p.m.

• Microsoft Excel 2007
Tuesday, Nov. 15, 10:30 a.m.

• Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog

Friday, Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m.

• Computer Basics: Files & Folders

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 10:30 a.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

The library will be closed Nov. 23-26 for Thanksgiving.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Preschool Craft
Thursday, Nov. 17, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Participants will make turkey placemats.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays
Mondays, 4 p.m.

Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Thrilling Thursday
Thursdays, 4 p.m. — Activities for school-aged children

• Nov. 17 - Yoga (ages 7 and up)

teens are invited to the library to make their own thank you cards for loved ones. This is a come-and-go event; all supplies are provided while they last. This program is held in the Teen Room located on the second floor. It is free and open to individuals between the ages of 12 and 18.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Book signing
Saturday, Nov. 19, 1-3 p.m.

Kingwood resident and author Lorraine Hill will be available to sign copies of her book "Reclaiming Your Joy: A Bible Study on Conquering Your Joy-Stealers." This inspirational study will encourage

age and guide readers to find solutions that will allow them to reclaim their joy.

■ Blood Drive
Tuesday, Nov. 22, noon-4 p.m.

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be at the library to receive blood donations from the public. Call 281-360-6804 or visit the library to sign up for a donation time. Visit www.giveblood.org for more information.

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:
• Using the Library's Digital Media Catalog
Friday, Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m.
• Computer Basics: Files & Folders
Tuesday, Nov. 29, 10:30

a.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

■ Scrapbooking donations
The library is seeking individuals to donate unwanted scrapbooking paper and scrapbooking accessories that are in good condition. These materials will be used for the teen and children's departments for crafts. The library will accept these materials on an ongoing basis. Donations may be left at the circulation desk on the first floor.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit
Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

■ Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

WISH LIST: HOW YOU CAN HELP THE COMMUNITY

■ **Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) Used Book Store** Used Bookstore needs donations of children's books, holiday books, cook-books, arts and crafts books, movies, DVDs and books on CD in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. The book store is located in the Kingwood Branch Library at 4400 Bens View Lane.

For a list of acceptable book donations and to volunteer to work in the bookstore or to join FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org. Membership fees and bookstore purchases benefit the Kingwood Library. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.

■ **New Caney New Horizons Inc.** is a local nonprofit organization committed to enriching the lives of people with developmental disabili-



Thank You Friends of the Library Kingwood!

The Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) donated another \$10,000 in October to the Harris County Public Library to purchase downloadable digital media for a total of \$30,000 in the past year, giving library patrons more choices of electronic books, audio and video to borrow. The library's electronic books are now compatible with the Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader, Android and Apple products. Library patrons can access the HCPL Digital Media Catalog and necessary software at www.hcpl.net. The Harris County Public Library has the largest number of digital items in the state. Pictured are FOLK board members Emily Maas and Connie Jaeger, Kingwood Branch Librarian Christi Whittington, and FOLK President Carolyn Humphrey.

■ **Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK)** Used Book Store Used Bookstore needs donations of children's books, holiday books, cookbooks, arts and crafts books, movies, DVDs and books on CD in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. The book store is located in the Kingwood Branch Library at 4400 Bens View Lane.

For a list of acceptable book donations and to volunteer to work in the bookstore or to join FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org. Membership fees and bookstore purchases benefit the Kingwood Library. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY RECEIVES NEIGHBORLY SUPPORT

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store Donates in Homespun Tradition

LEBANON, Tenn. – (October 5, 2011) – When Cracker Barrel Old Country Store® opened in Kingwood one year ago, the community welcome was heartwarming. And as the store team became more familiar with their neighbors, they realized that the Kingwood Branch Library plays an important role in providing information and resources throughout the area. To support the library's efforts at inspiring life-long learning and providing a place for people to meet and relax, Cracker Barrel today donated \$1000 and two of its signature rocking chairs to the Friends of the Library, Kingwood. The library plans to use the funds to support ongoing library programs.



Representatives from Friends of the Library, Kingwood met with Kingwood Cracker Barrel managers on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 to accept a \$1000 donation check and two new signature Cracker Barrel Old Country Store® rocking chairs. The Friends of the Library will use the money to help support ongoing library programs. L-R: Carolyn Humphrey, president of FOLK; Dawn Graham, Retail Manager, Kingwood Cracker Barrel; and Kelly Martinez, General Manager, Kingwood Cracker Barrel.



Cracker Barrel Old Country Store® recently donated two of their signature rocking chairs and \$1000 to the Friends of the Library, Kingwood. FOLK will use the money to support ongoing Kingwood Branch Library programs and placed the chairs in the children's section of the library. Pictured L-R are Rose Sonnier, children's librarian, with Kingwood Cracker Barrel representatives, Kelly Martinez, General Manager; and Dawn Graham, Retail Manager.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

The library will be closed Dec. 23-26 for Christmas and Dec. 31 for New Year's.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Preschool Craft: Reindeer Pops
Dec. 15, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays
Crafts and activities for school-aged children.
■ Thrilling Thursday
Thursdays, 4 p.m. — Activities for school-aged children

• Snowman Soup — Dec. 15
• Holiday Movie and Pop-

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

corn — Dec. 29, 2:15 p.m.
■ Dragoners Club
Second and fourth Thursday, Dec. 8 and 22, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thursday, Dragoners will have activities, crafts or programs.

TEEN PROGRAMS

■ Teen Crafternoon

Monday, Dec. 19, 4:30 p.m.

For December, teens are invited to decorate their own gingerbread houses. All supplies will be provided; registration is required. The program is held in the Teen Room on the second floor.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ College financial aid seminar
Monday, Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m.
College Financial Advisors representative Jeremy Farmer will present "How to Pay for College without Going Broke." Parents, teens and college-bound individuals are encour-

aged to attend to learn about paying for college without breaking the bank. The seminar will be held in the Meeting Room on the first floor.

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:
• Windows Movie Maker & Picture Manager
Friday, Dec. 9, 2:30 p.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

PROGRAMS FOR THE FAMILY

■ Holiday greeting cards
Monday through Friday

(except Wednesdays and holiday closings), 2-5 p.m.

During December, patrons can stop by the library to make holiday greeting cards. Card-making materials will be available to decorate up to two cards. Make a third card to donate to a local home for the elderly. All materials will be provided and will be set up in the Teen Room located on the second floor. Patrons can request blank cards from the reference librarians on the second floor and use the library's stamps and accessories for decoration.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit

Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

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Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

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KINGWOOD LIBRARY

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For December, teens are invited to decorate their own gingerbread houses. All supplies will be provided; registration is required. The program is held in the Teen Room on the second floor.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ GED Preparation classes
Jan. 9-June 19; Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5 p.m. and Fridays from 1-4 p.m.; class does not meet on Wednesdays or other library closures
This program is free and

limited to 12 people. Individuals 18 and older must have a valid ID. Individuals 16 and 17 years of age may qualify depending on circumstances. Study materials are included in the program; the cost of the GED examination is not included. Registration begins Jan. 9 at 1 p.m.

■ Friends of the Library
Kingwood (FOLK) Used Book Store Used Bookstore needs donations of children's books, holiday books, cookbooks, arts and crafts books, movies, DVDs and books on CD in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. The book store is located in the Kingwood Branch Library at 4400 Bens View Lane.

For a list of acceptable book donations and to volunteer to work in the bookstore or to join FOLK, visit www.kingwoodfolk.org. Membership fees and bookstore purchases benefit the Kingwood Library. The bookstore is open daily except Wednesday and Sunday.



Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, December 28, 2011, Page 7A

Political group makes lasting contribution to library

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observernews@hcnonline.com

Kingwood Area Republican Women recently donated 15 books to the Kingwood Branch Library. Christi Whittington, branch librarian, received the books, which were selected from the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project list. MELP books generally showcase American values and conservative principles and, as a group, are suitable for library patrons of all ages.

The following books were given in honor of past presidents of KARW:

■ "The Founders and the Classics" by Carl Richard - Peggy Englehardt, 1979

■ "Speaking My Mind" by Ronald Reagan - Patti Johnson, 1980

■ "The Federalist Papers" by Mary Webster - Pat Wall, 1981

■ "Code Talker" by Joseph Bruchac - Judy Sprigg, 1982

■ "Washington's Cross-



Submitted photo

The Kingwood Area Republican Women donated 15 books to the Kingwood Branch Library. Participating in the donation are, standing, from left, Nancy Fulton, Dr. Elaine Scott, Halene Crossman, Kathryn Dahlin, and seated, Betty Newton, librarian Christi Whittington, Lanelle Johnston and Marian Manchack.

ing" by David Fischer - Linda Kinney, 1983

■ "The American Revolution" by Steve Sheinkin - Cathy Wheatley, 1984

■ "Which Way to the Wild West?" by Steve Sheinkin -

Carla Copp, 2001

■ "The Essential American" by Jackie Cushman - Betty Newton, 2010-11

Other books were given in honor of board members who are leaving the board after years of outstanding service and who had never before been an honoree:

■ "Tocqueville: Democracy in America" by Alexis de Tocqueville - Kathryn Dahlin

■ "Ronald Reagan: An American Hero" by DK Publishing - Nancy Fulton

■ "Marshall, the Courthouse Mouse" by Cheryl Barnes - Lanelle Johnston

■ "Interpreting the Founding" by Alan Gibson - Skippy Lupton

■ "Woodrow, the White House Mouse" by Cheryl Barnes and Peter Barnes - Marian Manchack

■ "Rendezvous With Destiny" by Craig Shirley - Elaine Scott

■ "Ronald Reagan: 100 Years" by the Ronald Reagan

Presidential Foundation was donated in honor of Rebecca Bradford, 2011 president of the Texas Federation of Republican Women.

KARW is privileged to be able to provide extra books for the Kingwood community.

For more information about KARW, please contact Wendy Alexander at 281-359-3557.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

The library will be closed Dec. 23-26 for Christmas and Dec. 31 for New Year's.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Ongoing:

- Mysterious Mondays Mondays, 4 p.m. Crafts and activities for school-aged children.
- Thrilling Thursday Thursdays, 4 p.m. — Activities for school-aged children
- Holiday Movie and Popcorn — Dec. 29, 2:15 p.m.
- Dragoners Club Second and fourth Thursday, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thurs-

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

day, Dragoners will have activities, crafts or programs.

ADULT PROGRAMS

The library is offering the following computer classes:

- Basic Computers Monday, Jan. 9, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Basic Computers Tuesday, Jan. 10, 10:30 a.m.-noon
- Basic Email Friday, Jan. 13, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- iPad Apps Friday, Jan. 20, 2:30-4 p.m.
- Microsoft Office 2007 Overview

All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m.-noon

- eBooks on your Nook Friday, Jan. 27, 2-3 p.m.
- eBooks on your Kindle Friday, Jan. 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- Microsoft Office 2007 Overview Monday, Jan. 30, 7-8:30 p.m.
- eBooks on your Nook Tuesday, Jan. 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- eBooks on your Kindle Tuesday, Jan. 31, noon-1 p.m.
- eBooks on your iPad & iPhone Friday, Feb. 3, 2:30-4 p.m.

These classes are free and open to the public. Classes meet in the conference room or training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required as space is limited.

GED Preparation classes Jan. 9-June 19; Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5 p.m. and Fridays from 1-4 p.m.; class does not meet on Wednesdays or other library closures

This program is free and limited to 12 people. Individuals 18 and older must have a

Workforce Solutions is offering the following workshops for job seekers:

- Resume Tips Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1:30 p.m.
- Interview Tips Tuesday, Jan. 24, 1:30 p.m.

These classes are free and open to the public. Classes meet in the conference room or training lab located on the second floor. Registration is required as space is limited.

GED Preparation classes Jan. 9-June 19; Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5 p.m. and Fridays from 1-4 p.m.; class does not meet on Wednesdays or other library closures

This program is free and limited to 12 people. Individuals 18 and older must have a

valid ID. Individuals 16 and 17 years of age may qualify depending on circumstances. Study materials are included in the program; the cost of the GED examination is not included. Registration begins Jan. 9 at 1 p.m.

Organizing Life's Changes Thursday, Jan. 12, 1 p.m.

Learn to handle the unexpected loss of a loved one with professional organizer Ellen Delap and attorney Tamara Hensarling Paul. The program will cover essential documents such as death cer-

tificates and how to organize them. No registration is required. Meets in Meeting Room.

Knitting in Kingwood Saturday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m.-noon

Bring your own knitting project. Meets in Meeting Room.

Book Club Monday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.

The book being discussed will be "The Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum. Newcomers are welcome. Meets in Meeting Room; no registration required.

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KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY DECKS ITS WALLS



Submitted photo

Patrons of Kingwood Branch Library will be treated to a new ambience when they visit to check out their choice of the many and varied materials made available by the library. Members of the Kingwood Art Society were invited to hang artwork on the upstairs wall and responded with delighted alacrity. The presentation of local artists' works is a new service for the community and for the many talented local artists who just want a nice place to show what they can do. The exhibition changes on a rotating basis. From left are Randi Barrett, KAS gallery chair; Christi Whittington, head librarian; Carita Curfman, KAS gallery chair; and Elizabeth Ronald, reference librarian.

Harris County libraries promote reading through video contest

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observernews@hcnonline.com

The Harris County Public Library System is encouraging people to share good books with others — lots of others — and possibly win a prize. The system invites patrons

to enter the Story Tubes 2012 Contest, where they will get a chance to tell a whole lot of people about their favorite book and star in their own video, too. No equipment is even necessary. HCPL branches have the equipment; just ask a librarian at a local branch for assistance.

There will be prizes awarded to the winners of online voting, as well as special Judges' Choice awards in each of four age categories. To enter, fill out an entry form on the Story Tubes website, then upload a video to YouTube or TeacherTube. The staff at local Harris

County Public Library branches can help with this. The contest rules include the following:

- Entry forms and videos must be submitted between 9 a.m. Jan. 20 and 11 p.m. Feb. 20.

- Videos may be up to two minutes long.

- Videos can be made by individuals or groups (limit per video is five people).

- Registration is free, and English-speaking children and young adults in grades K through 12 are eligible to enter.

- Prizes are awarded in five age groups: ages 5-7, 8-10, 11-

13, 14-18 and just for fun, all ages.

For complete rules, guidelines and to view past entries, visit www.storytubes.info/drupal/.

For more information about local HCPL branches, call 713-749-9000 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

Kingwood Branch library undergoes artistic upgrades

Visitors to the Kingwood Branch Library will notice something new on their next visit. Members of the Kingwood Art Society were invited to decorate the facility with artwork.

The exhibition will be featured on the walls of the second floor in the arts and letters section. The exhibition is scheduled to change on a rotating basis.

KINGWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY DECKS ITS WALLS



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Patrons of Kingwood Branch Library will be treated to a new ambience when they visit to check out their choice of the many and varied materials made available by the library. Members of the Kingwood Art Society were invited to hang artwork on the upstairs wall and responded with delighted alacrity. The presentation of local artists' works is a new service for the community and for the many talented local artists who just want a nice place to show what they can do. The exhibition changes on a rotating basis. From left are Randi Barrett, KAS gallery chair; Christi Whittington, head librarian; Carita Curfman, KAS gallery chair; and Elizabeth Ronald, reference librarian.

Compliments of : BETTY HORD
RE/MAX ASSOCIATES/NE
281-358-8888 / 281-414-7450

Explore genealogy through Kingwood Library

BY MIDGE CROCKETT

Tribune Correspondent

For Mary Harrell-Sesniak, "Genealogy is not just a pastime, it's a passion." The study of family ancestry can require searching many sources, but she hopes to make it easier for anyone willing to dig. Sponsoring a free program through the Kingwood Branch Library, Harrell-Sesniak offers a hands-on approach through research and source development in an engaging two-hour course.



Sesniak

"There are several places online where one can go to glean accurate and up-to-date information," she said.

Participants are allowed access through library computers, while Harrell-Sesniak provides printed, detailed charts. She said she is hoping to minimize 'dead-ends' in research by giving them several websites to use.

Some websites she suggests are common like *Ancestry.com* and *DistantCousin.com*. She does receive many interested in military genealogy and World War II enthusiasts.

"The Military History War Library is a site people can find enormously valuable in locating information," she said.

The next genealogy session will be Feb. 11 in the library's training lab. For more information, call 281-360-6804.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood 77339
281-360-6804

Hours: Mondays 1 -9 p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Fridays 1 - 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

HOUSTON FAMILY SEARCH GENEALOGY

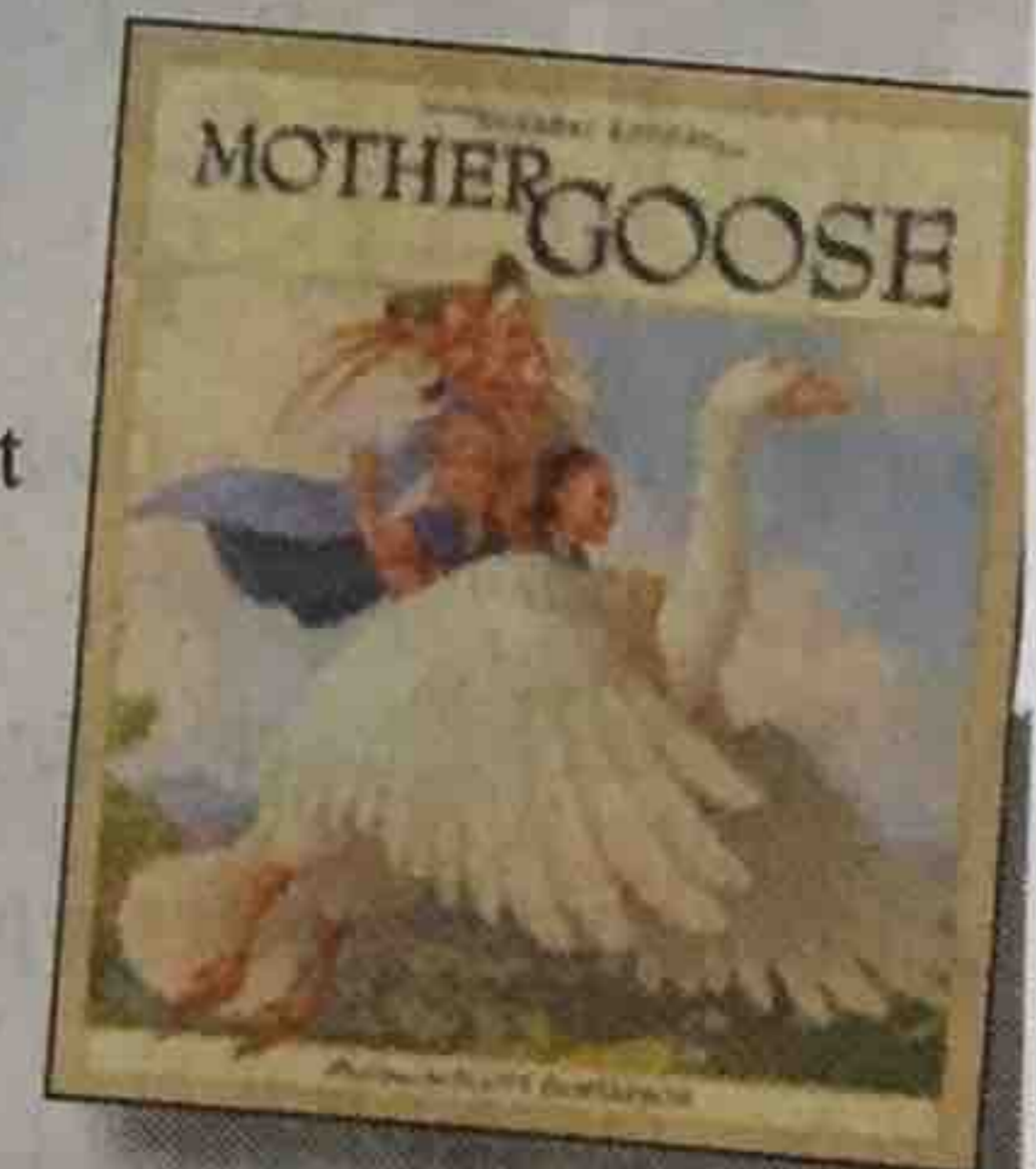
Presenters will teach participants how to explore and navigate through the Houston Family Search database in genealogy research at the Kingwood Branch Library meeting room Feb. 11 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH MOVIE AND DISCUSSION

In honor of Black History Month, the Kingwood Library will showcase a film and host a discussion for participants Feb. 13 and 14 in the meeting room. Times are: Feb. 13, 3:30 - 7 p.m. and Feb. 14, 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

MOTHER GOOSE LAP-SIT

Every Thursday, join others for story time and occasional crafts at 11 a.m.



PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME

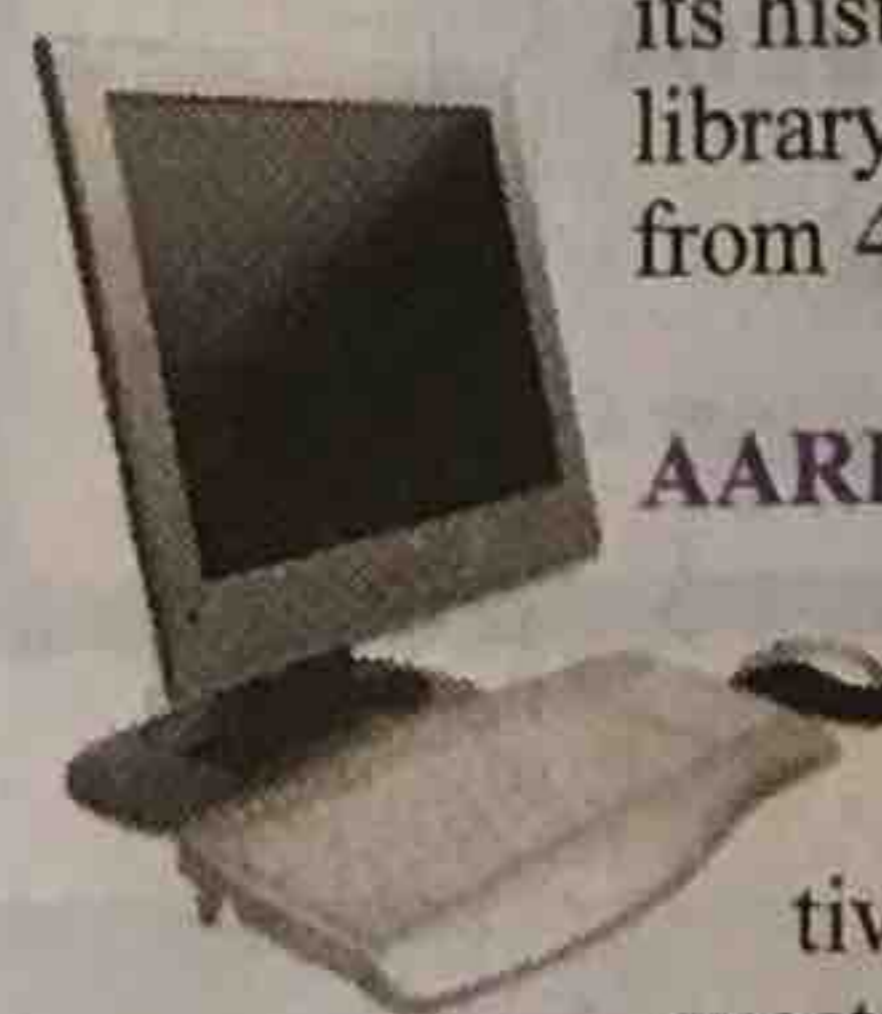
Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. join others for story time and occasional craft.

MAKE A KOFI

For Black History Month, participants can make a traditional Kofi hat from paper and learn about its history and significance in the library's meeting room Feb. 16 from 4 - 5p.m.

AARP TAX ASSISTANCE

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. the library offers an AARP representative available for income tax questions and filings for seniors.





THREE MINUTES WITH THE MAYOR - FIRST STOP IS KINGWOOD

Want to talk directly to the mayor? Houston Mayor Annise Parker understands that many Houstonians are unable to bring their questions and concerns to her, so she is coming to you. Three Minutes with the Mayor gives Houstonians the opportunity to talk one-on-one with Mayor Parker and will occur on a first-come first-served basis. Please prepare ahead, as each conversation will be limited to no more than three minutes. Parker will be in Kingwood 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012, at the Kingwood Branch Library located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call or email the Mayor's Citizens' Assistance office at 832.393.0955 or Cecilia.ortiz@houstontx.gov.



THE

Tribune



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2012

www.ourtribune.com

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VOLUME NO. 6 • ISSUE NO. 3

EVENTS

THURSDAY 23

iPad Skills Class: The Basic iPad Skills class will be held for adults who would like to learn more about basic iPad features and uses, 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood. 281-360-6804. Attendees must have iOS 5 installed.

Dragoneers: This afterschool program invites school-age children to explore knighthood through crafts and activities, 4-5 p.m. at the Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood. 281-360-6804.

SATURDAY 25

Photography 101: Vincent Palmisano will present this program for adults wishing to learn how to take better photos with a digital camera, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood. Call 281-360-6804 for more information.

Story Time: Story time will be held for children of all ages and their families 3-3:30 p.m. at the Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood. 281-360-6804.

Kingwood Observer, Wednesday, February 22, 2012

LIBRARY PAVERS

The Friends of the Kingwood Library is offering residents the opportunity to leave a permanent commemorative icon at the library to make a positive and lasting impact on the community. Engraved pavers can be purchased in the name of someone special and will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. For a contribution of \$150, pavers display an inscription of up to three lines with 16 characters per line, including spaces. For more information, call 281-360-5844 or 281-360-5261. Mail contributions to Friends of the Library Kingwood, 2915 Deer Hollow, Kingwood 77345 or donate online at www.kingwoodfolk.org.

Parker kicks off local meetings in Kingwood

In an effort to bridge City Hall to the denizens of Houston, Mayor Annise Parker inaugurated a series of neighborhood meetings titled "Three Minutes with the Mayor." A press announcement stated Parker understood many questions or concerns never have the opportunity to reach her personally, so she wanted to bring government to the most local level – face-to-face.

The series began with an early morning visit to Kingwood Feb. 11. Attendees were required to register at the Kingwood Branch Library for a timeslot and wait for their number to be called. Residents sat vis-à-vis with the mayor and Kingwood-North Sector Community Liaison Gwendolyn Condoleo.

After the meetings Parker said, "It was great to kick off this series of events – where Houstonians can actually come and talk to the mayor of their city – in Kingwood. I received very thoughtful suggestions and feedback." Before entering the library, she

introduced herself to some Boy Scouts conducting a service project and even posed for a few pictures, "To top it off, I was able to personally thank Boy Scout Troops 839 and 484 for their efforts in helping tidy up the area outside of the library."

While the sessions were closed to the public, some of the residents shared similar concerns or comments for the mayor, ranging from water in Lake Houston to city finances, recycling programs and waste management services.

The office hours will continue throughout the year each quarter. For more information on the visit to Kingwood and the series, email the Citizen's Assistance Office at cecilia.ortiz@houstontx.gov.



Houston Mayor makes first neighborhood stop in Kingwood

Friends of the Kingwood Library receives \$5,000 donation

The Kinder Morgan Foundation recently donated \$5,000 to the Friends of the Library-Kingwood (FOLK) to purchase downloadable digital media children's books, targeting the pre-school/kindergarten through fifth-grade ages. Specifically, FOLK will purchase a combination of audio and eBook formats of classics, award winners, fiction and picture books for the juvenile book collection.

"We are proud to be a member of your community and we believe in providing assistance whenever possible to organizations in your area," said the Kinder Morgan Foundation's Maureen A. Bulkley, who presented the check.

Christi Whittington, Kingwood Branch librarian, and Mike Saperstein, Harris County Multimedia Selection librarian, quickly ordered and selected books. The Kingwood Branch Library works closely with

local teachers and school librarians to complement their curriculums and continues to add titles of books that are on school reading lists and that are used in the classroom. In addition, the library supports the Lone Star and Texas Bluebonnet Award books for the annual reading programs sponsored by the Texas Library Association. Many of the schools also use the Reading Counts or Accelerated Reading programs and the

library helps the students and parents in choosing titles to read in these lists.

The Harris County Library system offers the Overdrive Downloadable Digital Media service to its customers, with titles available in audio or eBook format. Within HCPL, the circulation of juvenile fiction titles, combined audio and eBooks, increased 125.5 percent from 8,117 in 2010 to 18,305 in 2011. The Kingwood Branch Library

customers have consistently been fourth in use of this service. Demand for this format will continue to grow especially as new devices are introduced to the public and as prices come down for these devices. The library had a noticeable increase last year and expects another one, as the Kindle is now compatible with the Overdrive system.

The reality of today's economy is that the budget for library materials is significantly smaller than

in previous years, when demand for libraries increased. The goal of Branch Library when budget is tight. In an effort to support the Kingwood Branch Library when budget is tight. In an effort to seeking foundation support, FOLK operates a bookstore, selling donated by members community and using proceeds to support the library. For information about joining FOLK for as little as \$5 a year, visit www.kingwood.org/membership.

positive and lasting impact on the community. Engraved pavers can be purchased in the name of someone special and will enhance the main walkway, front entrance or garden area. For a contribution of \$150, pavers display an inscription of up to three lines with 16 characters per line, including spaces. For more information, call 281-360-5844 or 281-360-5261. Mail contributions to Friends of the Library Kingwood, 2915 Deer Hollow, Kingwood 77345 or donate online at www.kingwoodfolk.org.

LIBRARY PAVERS

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Library friends group launches membership drive

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observernews@hcnonline.com

The Friends of the Library Kingwood is a nonprofit organization that raises money to provide support to enhance the overall quality of the Kingwood Branch Library. Funds are raised through annual membership dues and sales of used books at its bookstore near the library entrance at 4400 Bens View Drive.

Family memberships are \$20 for the year April 1, 2012,

through March 31, 2013. FOLK members receive a 15 percent discount on purchases in the bookstore.

Community residents generously donate their used books, CDs, DVDs and current magazines, which are then sold at nominal cost in the bookstore. Additionally, FOLK sells used books that have a higher resale value on Amazon.com.

The group provides major support to purchase books and downloadable digital media for the library. Just in the

past year FOLK has provided more than \$115,000 in support to the library in the form of book purchases; specialty furnishings in children's and young adult areas; downloadable digital media (audio and e-books); video games and equipment; DVDs; art and craft supplies; continuing education; and children's, young adult and adult program support.

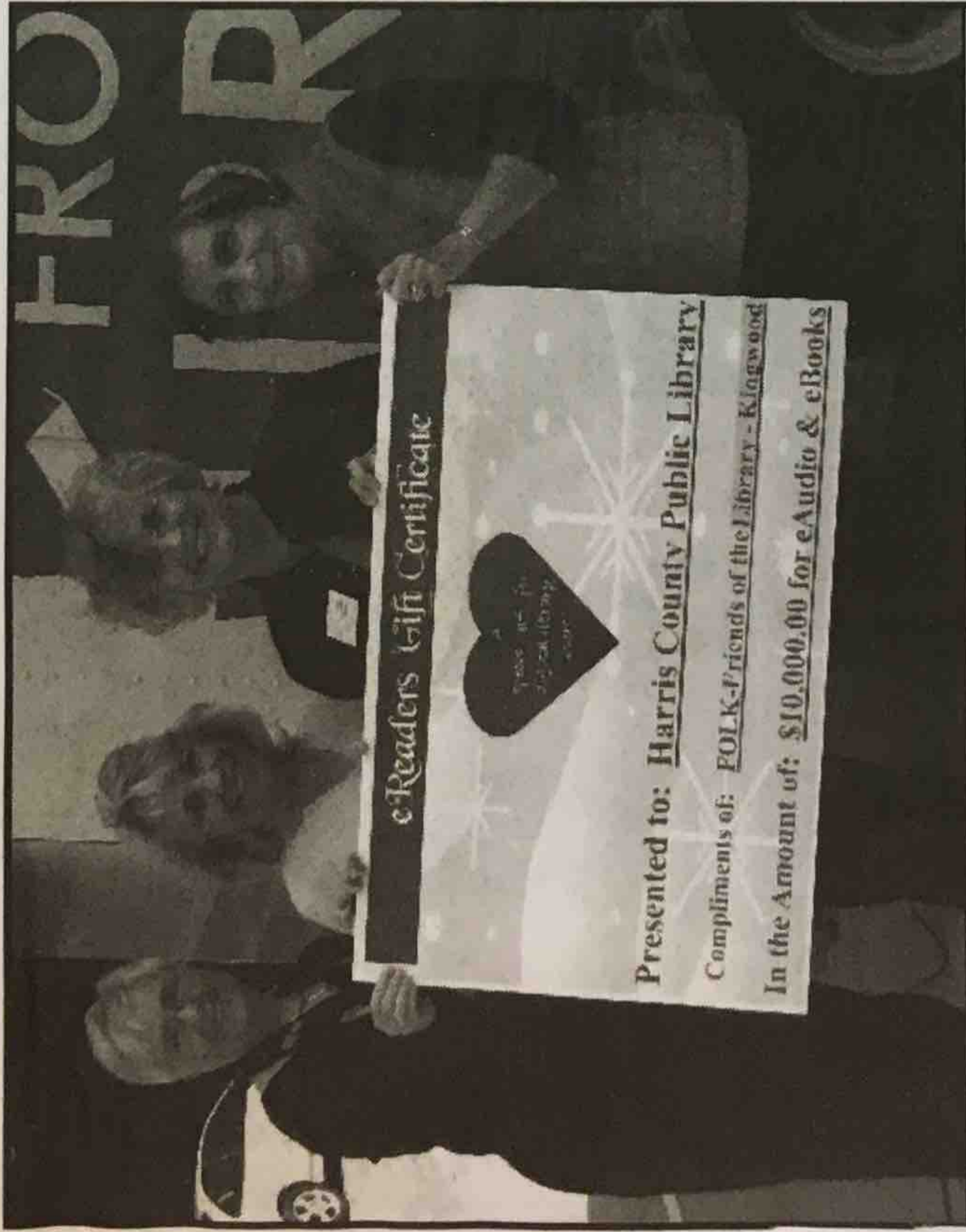
FOLK membership dues may be paid online at the FOLK website, www.kingwoodfolk.org; in person at

the bookstore; or by mail at FOLK, P.O. Box 5353, Kingwood TX 77325. Gifts to FOLK, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible. Any contribution will make a positive and lasting impact on the community.

Submitted photo

People of all ages enjoy the FOLK Used Bookstore. The Friends of the Library Kingwood is asking community residents to join FOLK for \$20 per year. The money goes to enhance the overall quality of the library, and members receive a 15 percent discount in the bookstore.





The Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) donated another \$10,000 to the Harris County Public Library to purchase downloadable digital media for a total of \$30,000 in the past year, giving library patrons more choices of electronic books, audio and video to borrow. The library's electronic books are now compatible with the Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader, Android and Apple products. Library patrons can access the HCPL Digital Media Catalog and necessary software at www.hcpl.net. The Harris County Public Library has the largest number of digital items in the state. Pictured are FOLK board members Emily Maas and Connie Jaeger, Kingwood Branch Librarian Christi Whittington, and FOLK President Carolyn Humphrey.

FOLK LAUNCHES MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) is a non-profit organization that raises money to provide support to enhance the overall quality of the Kingwood Branch Library. Funds are raised through annual membership dues and sales of used books at its bookstore near the library entrance at 4400 Bens View Drive. Family memberships are \$20 for the year April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013. FOLK members receive a 15% discount on purchases in the bookstore.

Community residents generously donate their used books, CDs, DVDs and current magazines, which are then sold at nominal cost in the bookstore. Additionally, FOLK sells used books that have a higher resale value on Amazon.com.

The group provides major support to purchase books and downloadable digital media for the library. Just in the past year FOLK has provided more than \$115,000 in support to the library in the form of book purchases, specialty furnishings in children's & young adult areas, downloadable digital media (audio & e-books), video games and equipment, DVDs, art and craft supplies, continuing education, and children's, young adult and adult program support.

FOLK membership dues may be paid online at the FOLK website www.kingwoodfolk.org or in person at the bookstore or by mail at FOLK, PO Box 5353, Kingwood TX 77325. Gifts to FOLK, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible. Any contribution will make a positive and lasting impact on the community in which you and your family live and work.

www.forestimage.com

NONPROFITS RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM KINGWOOD WOMEN'S CLUB

Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

The Kingwood Women's Club recognized each of the nonprofit organizations it supports throughout the year at the group's March 22 meeting at Homewood Suites in Kingwood. The club also presented a check to each of the nonprofits, the proceeds of which come from fundraising through the year and the club's largest fundraiser, the Holiday Marketplace, which will be Oct. 22 and 23 this year.



Photo by JENNIFER SUMMER/The Observer

Members of the Kingwood Women's Club gathered March 22 to recognize each of the nonprofit organizations the group supports throughout the year at Homewood Suites in Kingwood. The club presented checks to each of the nonprofits from proceeds raised throughout the year through various fundraisers and the club's largest fundraiser, the Holiday Marketplace, which will be held this year on Oct. 22 and 23.



BUSINESS



Harris County Public Library System and Kingwood Branch Library ESL coordinators and tutors welcome new tutors April 14.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TRAINING

English as a Second Language (ESL) coordinators and tutors will host an ESL training April 14 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Kingwood Branch Library. Tutors will be trained to work with small groups once or twice a week. For more information, call 281-360-6804. s to rev up the weekend with open house

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ El Dia de los Ninos Monday, April 30, 4 p.m. This "children's day" will include a visit from Happy the Clown.

Ongoing:

■ Mysterious Mondays Mondays, 4 p.m. Crafts and activities for school-aged children.

■ Fabulous Friday at the Movies Fridays, 4 p.m. There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

■ Thrilling Thursday Thursdays, 4 p.m. — Activities for school-aged children

• Dragoners Club Second and fourth Thursday, 4 p.m.

This is a reading club for school-aged children. Those who register will receive a free book and T-shirt. Students will discuss books and have snacks. On the fourth Thursday, Dragoners will have activities, crafts or programs.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Adult Gaming Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon Adults are invited to play PS3 and Wii games in the Teen Game Room. No teens are allowed during this time. Held in Teen Game Room; no registration required. Standard Teen Game Room rules apply.

■ ESL Tutor Training Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.-

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

at EllenDelapProfessionalOrganizer.

■ Knitting in Kingwood Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Join local knitters for craft and conversation. Bring your own project. Meets in Meeting Room; no registration required.

■ Intro to Genealogy Saturday, April 21, 1-3 p.m.

Genealogist Karen Ackel will present information on genealogy for beginners. Meets in Meeting Room; no registration required.

■ The library is offering the following computer classes:

• Email Basics Friday, April 13, 1:30-3 p.m.

• Basic Microsoft Excel 2007 (Repeat class) Monday, April 16, 7-8:30 p.m.

• Introduction to Microsoft Word 2007 Tuesday, April 17, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

• Library eBooks for Kindle Friday, April 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

• Library eBooks for Nook Friday, April 27, 3-4 p.m. All classes are free and open to the public. Space is limited on these classes, and registration is required.

Friday, April 20

Patrons can stop by to make paper butterflies to donate to the Holocaust Museum Houston for an upcoming exhibition. Materials will be available Monday through Friday (with the exception of Wednesdays) all day in the Teen Room located on the

second floor. Make an extra one to take home.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program in-

cludes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

■ Preschool Storytime Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

■ Saturday Storytime Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Spend a little family time with a good story or two. The whole family is welcome.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Domino's Dough-Reme June 7, 2:15 and 3:30 p.m. Learn to make a killer pizza from the pros. Ages 6 years and up. Free tickets available.
- Cops & Robbers Party June 14, 2:15 p.m. Put on your detective hat and come to the party. Recommended for school-aged children.
- Jungle Jim the Bugman June 18, 2:15 p.m. Bugs and creepy crawlies from all over. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Free tickets available beginning June 15.
- Investigation Station June 21, 2:15 p.m. Crafts and activities. Recommended for ages 5 and up.
- Non-Toxic Band June 25, 7:30 p.m. Great music for the whole family. Free tickets available beginning June 22.
- Claude Sims, juggler June 28, 2:15 p.m. Recommended for school-aged children. Free tickets available June 25.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY

The library is located at 4400 Bens View Lane. For more information, call 281-360-6804 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

Ongoing:

- Friday at the Movies Fridays, 2:15 p.m. There will be movie and popcorn every Friday.

TEEN PROGRAMS

- Teen Summer Reading Program through Aug. 11 Register and read five books this summer to receive a prize; participate in Kingwood Library summer programs to be eligible for prizes. Registration required.
- Gaming Rental Day Monday, June 11, 1-5 p.m. Teens can stop by the Teen Game Room to test out a newly released game. Standard Game Room rules apply. No registration required.
- Texas Battle Bunker Part 1 Saturday, June 16, 1-3 p.m.

Local Texas Battle Bunker shop will provide fantasy figurines for teens to paint while supplies last. Meets in Teen Room. No registration required.

- Teen Craft: Bookmarks Monday, June 18, 3-5 p.m. Teens can stop by the Teen Room to create their own bookmarks, while supplies last. Bring your own photos and-magazines or use provided materials. Meets in Teen Room. No registration required.
- Texas Battle Bunker Part 2 Saturday, June 30, 1-3 p.m. Local Texas Battle Bunker shop will provide fantasy figurines for teens to paint while supplies last. Meets in Teen Room. No registration required.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Adult Summer Reading Program through Aug. 11 Register and read five books this summer to be eli-

gible for prizes. Registration required.

- Family Gaming Thursdays, June 7-Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-noon Families can play an E-rated Wii or PS3 game; standard game room rules apply. Parent must be present. Teen Game Room; no registration required.
- How to Pay for College without Going Broke Saturday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.-noon Jeremy Farmer of College Financial Advisors will provide information on tackling high college costs. Meets in Meeting Room; no registration required.

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ Cops & Robbers Party
June 14, 2:15 p.m.
Put on your detective hat and come to the party. Recommended for school-aged children.

■ Jungle Jim the Bugman
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Bugs and creepy crawlies from all over. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Free tickets available beginning June 15.

■ Investigation Station
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Crafts and activities. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

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Great music for the whole family. Free tickets available beginning June 22.

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Fridays, 2:15 p.m.
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■ Texas Battle Bunker Part 2
Saturday, June 30, 1-3 p.m.
Local Texas Battle Bunker shop will provide fantasy figurines for teens to paint while supplies last. Meets in Teen Room. No registration required.

ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Adult Summer Reading Program
through Aug. 11
Register and read five

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

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Crafts and activities. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

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ADULT PROGRAMS

■ Adult Summer Reading Program
through Aug. 11
Register and read five books this summer to be eligible for prizes. Registration required.

■ Long-term Healthcare
Tuesday, June 26, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Edward Jones financial advisors will present information on long-term health care and the planning process. In Meeting Room; no registration required.

■ Family Gaming
Thursdays through Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-noon
Families can play an E-rated Wii or PS3 game; standard game room rules apply. Parent must be present. Teen Game Room; no registration required.

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HOUSTON CHRONICLE | ULTIMATEKINGWOOD.COM | Week of July 5-11, 2012

Z2



Five-year-old Kayla Rushton, left, Emily Cook, 8, and Isabella Fountain, 8, read their books in the children's section at the Kingwood Branch Library.

Jerry Baker photos / For the Chronicle

Turning the page for summer fun

By Lindsay Peyton

Area libraries are unlocking a mystery — searching for clues on how to keep kids reading and coming to the library.

This year administrators are trying a summer reading program with a detective theme. For children, they have planned "Get a Clue at Your Library," and "T.S.I. Teen Scene Investigation" for teenagers.

Linda Stevens, coordinator of marketing and programming for Harris County Public Library, said the theme has wide appeal.

"Mystery is one of the most popular genres that people check out at the library," she said. "But if you think about it, whenever you read, you're unraveling a mystery. Even if you are reading nonfiction, you're trying to understand something."

Stevens' goal is to get the whole family to seek answers and adventure between book covers throughout the year, but especially through Aug. 11.

"We've got programs for all ages," Stevens said. "What differs is how many books you have to complete and what

prizes you get."

Requirements vary by age group. Children up to age 12 must read 10 books or spend a total of 500 minutes reading. For children too young to read, listening to books counts. When they reach the goal, they will receive a book and a certificate. If they read 50 books, they receive a ribbon.

Teenagers from 13 to 18 years old must read five books or spend 600 minutes reading. If they reach their quota, they receive a bracelet with a flashdrive.

Adults are also invited to join the program. If they participate, they will be entered in drawings for e-readers and for gift cards to book stores.

All Harris County Public Library branches will host special programs to ignite the imagination of kids, teens and adults.

Rose Sonnier, assistant branch librarian, children services, at the Kingwood Branch Library, said staff recently hosted a program where children dusted their own fingerprints and examined them with magnifying glasses. The children also made police badges.

Reading continues on 6



Emmi Stevens, 7, left, helps her sister, Lulu, 6, paint her sun-catcher bookmark during the crafts activity as part of the investigation program at the Kingwood Branch Library.

Summertime is busy at library branches

Reading from page 1

"We're just trying to make it fun all summer long," she said.

Other programs will explore everything from bugs and wildlife to jugglers and teatime.

Sonnier said when children participate in the programs, they leave with a couple of books to read.

"Before they leave, they find books they want. They always do," she said.

Sonnier said her goal is to foster a love for books and exploring. "They want to look and explore whatever they are interested in," she said. "We want to keep them engaged over the summer, to let them know it's not just schoolwork. Learning is fun, and it doesn't just

happen in the classroom."

Sonnier said the library is always buzzing in the summer. "It's definitely our busiest time," she said.

Stevens said the same is true throughout the county. "We are the place to be in the summer," she said.

Last year, there were 80,000 children and teens who participated in the summer reading program in Harris County.

Stevens said a key goal of the reading program is to keep children intellectually stimulated over their vacation.

"Studies have shown that when kids are not in school, they're losing their reading proficiency," she said.

"If we keep this going

Want to go?

All library programs are free and open to the public. To find out what is scheduled at each branch, visit the website www.hcpl.net

over the summer, they'll be better prepared when school starts again."

She expects that the program will continue to be popular this year.

"It's free, it's cool, and it's fun," she said. "What's not to love? And the whole family is invited."

Stevens said that Harris County has not seen a decrease in use over the past few years.

"We have not seen a dip in reading," she said. "We check out 11 million items a year. That tells us that people are still reading."

The libraries also check out e-books through their website.

Stevens said e-books can be especially popular for summer road trips.

"We check out about 50,000 e-books in a month," she said.

Parents bring their children to the libraries, and older siblings might drag in their little brothers and sisters, Stevens said. "They want kids to experience what they did when they were young," she said. "We get everybody reading. And nurturing a lifelong love of reading is just enriching people's lives."

Lindsay Peyton is a freelance writer and can be reached at taylorpeyton@gmail.com

The Tribune

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2012

Promoting literacy with the 'Folks' at FOLK

BY MADISON TERRIER

Tribune Intern

Jugglers, magicians, zoo animals and princess tea parties aren't normally what you would find in a library. But the Kingwood Branch Library has Friends of the Library Kingwood (FOLK) on their side. Chartered in 1981, FOLK is a non-profit organization with a goal of bettering the Kingwood Library.

The group takes all funds made

off of their used book store and put it into the library's budget.

"Our community benefits a lot from having such a great library," said President of FOLK, Carolyn Humphrey. "I think our community is better educated when it has a library because the library is learning."

FOLK is located off the lobby of the library, and has grown from only having quarterly book sales

See FOLK/2D



Kingwood Branch Library Monday bookstore volunteers (from left) Frances M. Pelham, Lynette Campbell and Dale Schwarz are delighted to assist in finding books. Photo by Madison Terrier

FOLK has more than 70 volunteers

CONTINUED FROM 1A

every year, to being a permanent bookstore, opened the same hours as the library.

"FOLK started before there was even a library," said Humphrey. "It was a group of people that wanted Kingwood to have a library, and went from house to house, door to door, asking for contributions."

The used book store has grown to include everything from comics, cookbooks, necessities for school, and recent best-sellers. Everything in the store was donated by the community in order to maximize the profit for the library.

More than 70 volunteers are what keep FOLK running. The group of friends is made up of its volunteers as well as its board of directors including, Humphrey as president, 1st Vice President Richard LaFosse, 2nd Vice President Marianne Lincoln, Recording Secretary Betsy Birkett, Treasurer Roger Whitney, Corresponding Secretary Chris Davis, Historian/Pavers Becky Jinette, Newsletter Phyllis Louderback, Used Book Store Frances Pelham,

Draggoneer Club Raquel Henry, Special Projects Connie Jaeger, Publicity Emily Maas, Webmaster Chuck Dugand, Grant Writer Karen Buchler, and Librarian Christi Whittington.

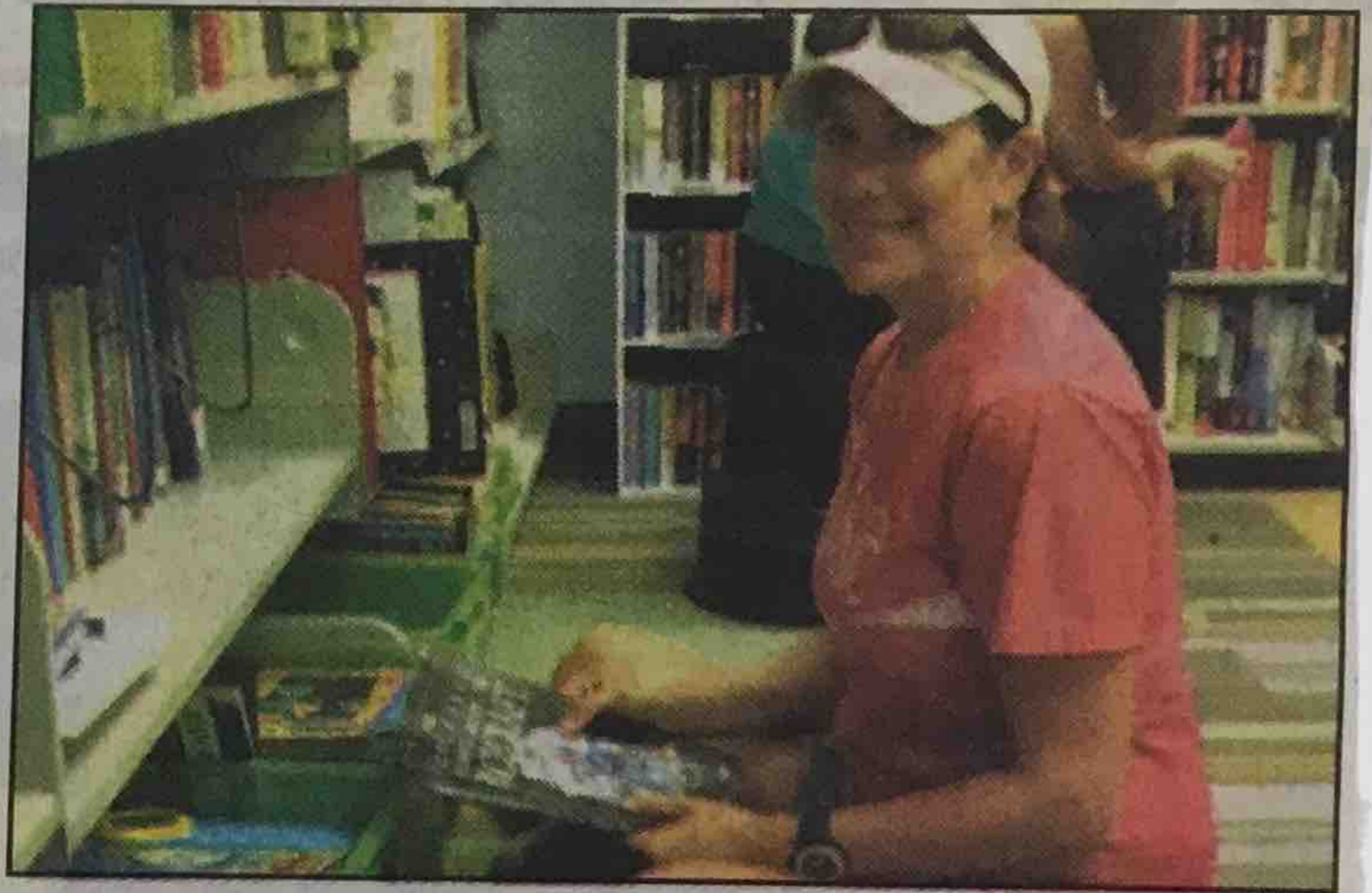
"I am a board of trustee member as well as a cashier when I volunteer," said Maas. "It's really a nice thing to do for the community. I just like to read. That's one reason I wanted to be there."

Humphrey also said that she likes volunteering not only because of her love for reading, but also because of the friends she has made.

"The group of friends is a wonderful group to work with," said Humphrey.

Over the past year, FOLK has given \$115,000 to the Kingwood Branch Library.

"It's just wonderful," said Kingwood Branch Librarian Christi Whittington. "It's wonderful that the friends are able to add to our budget. Not only do they help fund our children's summer reading program, but they also help add materials to the children's and adult sections of the library."



Danielle Cantu, 2nd grade teacher at Elm Groves Elementary, shops for her classroom at the Friends of the Kingwood Library book store. Photo by Madison Terrier

The prices for the FOLK used books are: 50 cents to \$1 for children's books, \$1 - \$2 for adult paperbacks and hardbacks, and \$1 - \$5 dollars for newly released books, coffee table books, DVDs, audiobooks, music and computer games.

FOLK also offers a family membership. Community members can donate \$20 or more in membership fees and receive a 15 percent discount on all purchases throughout the year. Other opportunities for donating include purchasing a paver

and naming a room. One can purchase a paver for \$150 with an inscription to forever be a part of the walkway leading up to the entrance of Kingwood Library or, with a contribution of \$10,000-\$50,000, have a room in the library named for an individual or group of contributors.

"We are very, very fortunate that our community uses, appreciates, loves the library, and contributes to our FOLK group by volunteering or buying used books," said Whittington.



Contributed photo

From left, Mike Massey, senior building engineer, and Brad Moore, maintenance technician, help Frances Pelham, vice president of bookstore operations for the Friends of the Library-Kingwood, unload some of the books donated to the bookstore.

Kingwood Library receives 300 books to sell

Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. LP's Kingwood Research and Technology Center donated more than 300 surplus technical books and periodicals to Friends of the Library-Kingwood to sell at its used bookstore. Helping with the donations were Mike

Massey, senior building engineer; Brad Moore, maintenance technician; and Frances Pelham, vice president of bookstore operations for the Friends of the Library-Kingwood.

FRIDAY 20

Fabulous Friday at the Movies: Unwind and enjoy a favorite old movie, 2:15-5:45 p.m. in the children's activity room at Kingwood Branch Library, 4400 Bens View Lane, Kingwood. Open to all ages. 281-360-6804.

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Kingwood Observer

Kingwood Library's FOLK celebrates milestones

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observernews@hcnonline.com

Summer is here and it is a great time to cool off at the Friends Of the Library Kingwood Used Bookstore at the Kingwood Library for anyone looking for a quick read, a recent best seller, classics for school or children's books.

FOLK is a nonprofit organization chartered in 1981 that worked tirelessly in those early years to ensure that a county library got built in the community. The group continues to sell books donated by people in Kingwood and surrounding communities to raise money to enhance the overall quality of the library.

FOLK held its very first used book sale in front of Winn's department store and made a grand total of \$33, followed by

28 years of quarterly book sales in the first Kingwood Branch Library, which opened in August of 1984. Patrons eagerly awaited those sales and went home with countless bags of books purchased at bargain prices.

FOLK now operates a permanent bookstore just off the lobby of the new library. It is ADA accessible for patrons needing assistance and the books are well organized, making it easy to make a selection.

Prices are still low, ranging from 50 cents to one dollar for children's books to one dollar for adult paperbacks and two dollars for hardbacks. Newly released books and coffee table books range in price from three to five dollars each. Media materials like DVDs, music, audio books, computer games, etc., sell for \$1-\$5. There are even

current magazines and bargain books selling for only fifty cents.

FOLK's third annual Back To School Sale, with even lower prices on classics, children's books and teacher supplies, is scheduled for August 13-18.

FOLK also sells used books that have a higher resale value on www.amazon.com. Funds are also raised through the FOLK Fund Raising Campaign and through annual membership sales. FOLK members now receive a 15 percent discount on purchases in the bookstore. Family memberships are \$20 for the year - April 1 through March 31, 2013.

FOLK continues to provide major support to purchase books and downloadable digital media for the Kingwood Library. FOLK has provided more than \$115,000 in support

to the library this past year in the form of book purchases, specialty furnishings in children's and young adult areas, downloadable digital media (audio and e-books), video games and equipment, DVD's, arts and craft supplies, continuing education, and children's, young adult & adult program support.

Donations are essential to the success of FOLK's ability to assist the operations of the library.

More than 70 volunteers work in the bookstore and others serve as substitutes for the regular workers. Volunteer sign-up forms are at www.kingwoodfolk.org under the bookstore tab. Training classes are held on an as needed basis.

For more information, log on to www.kingwoodfolk.org.

THE TRIBUNE
WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 8, 2012
SECTION C

FOAL BOOK SALE SET



Attention, all teachers and students. The Friends of the Library Kingwood has planned its annual Back-To-School Sale for the week of Aug. 13-18 at the used bookstore at the Kingwood Branch Library. Children's and young adult books, teacher materials, textbooks, reference books and classics/literature/poetry/drama will be half price during the week of the sale. Timing of the Back-To-School Sale is meant to give students, teachers and families bargain prices on the books they need for the upcoming school year. All sales benefit the Kingwood Branch Library. To ensure a great selection, bring in your used teacher materials, children's and young adult books, textbooks, reference books and classics/literature/poetry/drama now. Book donations are tax-deductible. The FOLK Bookstore is located to the left of the main entrance of the library at 4400 Bens View Lane and is open daily except Sunday and Wednesday.

Wednesday, August 15, 2012, Page 5A

Kingwood Observer

KINGWOOD LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

WEEKLY STORY TIMES

■ Mother Goose Lapsit
Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. and
Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Designed for children 0-18 months and their parents/caregivers. Program includes nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs.

■ Toddler Time
Tuesdays and Thursdays,

10 a.m.

Program is individualized for 18 months to 3 years. Tickets are required. Tickets are handed out at the Children's Reference Desk on the day of the program.

■ Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and

2:20 p.m.

Designed for 3-6-year-old children, but all ages are welcome.

■ Family Storytime

Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Spend a little family time with a good story or two. The whole family is welcome.

■ Get A Clue Read-Aloud
Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

Books and stories for school-aged children.

■ Friday at the Movies.
2:15 p.m. (4 p.m. on 24th & 31th)

Popcorn and a movie every Friday. Ends Aug. 31.

ULTIMATE KINGWOOD

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Summerwood, Fall
Creek and Humble

72

HOUSTON CHRONICLE | ULTIMATEKINGWOOD.COM | Week of September 13-19, 2012

HARRIS COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Readers check out more pages with pixels

By Nicklaus Lovelady

The resounding growth in digital media checkouts at the Harris County Library System over the last eight months is being attributed to the popular Kindle electronic book reader, officials say.

In September 2011, Amazon, which sells the device, lifted a restriction that prohibited Kindle users access to free eBook catalogs at public librar-

ies across the country. Kindle is the world's best selling e-reader and its availability to library users brought a bigger than expected boost to libraries.

Harris County is on pace to have its sixth consecutive record-shattering year for digital checkouts.

Since 2006, usage has increased from around 6,000 to 309,000 in 2011. Through mid June, the library has seen 209,800 checkouts and is on

pace for nearly 500,000, said Michael Saperstein, Harris County Public Library multimedia librarian.

"The Kindle, by far, is the most requested format," he said. "The holds we have for Kindles are around 6,300 compared to 6,600 for all other formats together."

The Harris County Public Library digital database, known as OverDrive, is available on

Digital continues on 8



Chronicle file

The Harris County Public Library System is on pace to log around 500,000 digital checkouts this year on devices like this Kindle.

Drive for digital books continues at local library branch locations

Digital from page 1

line through each of the 26 branches and Lone Star College libraries. The database service is provided by Ohio-based OverDrive Inc., which charges each library system access according to the size of its circulation.

The digital catalog consists of eBooks, audio books, movies and videos, all which can be used with an assortment of computers, smartphones, eBook readers and portable devices.

Besides the Kindle, other popular eReaders include iPad, the Nook, and the Sony (Digital) Reader. Anyone with a library card and an Internet connection can access the catalog.

"What I love about them most is the stories you hear about people in the hospital or the elderly who are homebound who are still able to get books although they're not able to get to the library," Saperstein said.

EBooks and physical books are the same in that libraries purchase a certain number of copies from the publisher. A library cannot checkout more eBooks than it has purchased. With a few of exceptions, most titles can only be checked out by

one person at a time.

To match the demand, the library system has had to also increase its collections. Last year, Harris County library card holders could choose from up to 6,939 eBooks. There are now 9,295 eBooks and available, Saperstein said.

The annual budget for the digital catalog is about \$87,000. That includes operating cost and the purchase of new titles. Local library advocacy groups donated \$28,000 last year to the library system, which Saperstein said allowed it to help maintain the growth of the digital catalog.

The donations were able to purchase 700 additional digital titles, he said.

One of the biggest contributors was from the Friends of The Library at Kingwood which made a donation in February of \$10,000. Group president Carolyn Humphrey said the donation was necessary to ensuring continued access for Kingwood residents.

"There are so many people who own eReaders now we thought it was important to help give them access to all of the library service, which include eBooks. We had a lot of requests for it,"

Humphrey said. "We're trying to help make the library better for residents and a more attractive place."

The eBook file formats the libraries carried would not have worked on Kindle e-readers prior to Amazon's policy change. Amazon has now established a Kindle file format for thousands of titles

Humphrey, who owns a Nook, said she like eBooks because they're the ideal companion for travel. "It'll never take the place of that feeling you get when you have a good ole book in your hands. But they are so convenient because you can load so many titles on there," she said.

Atascocita Branch Librarian Beth Krippel said the popularity of eBooks is the driving force behind steady increases in library circulation. To access the digital catalog, a person must have a library card.

"We're delighted to see this much attention toward libraries and reading in particular. We're for reading in whatever form it takes," Krippel said.

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Submitted photo

Kingwood Branch Library employee Kim Capps, right, awards Lara Zuckerman a gift card for participating in the Harris County Public Library's Adult Summer Reading Program.

Kingwood Library awards summer adult reading program winner

FROM COMMUNITY REPORTS
observernews@hcnonline.com

Lara Zuckerman, a lifelong reader, is the Kingwood Branch 2012 Summer Adult Reading Program winner of the www.amazon.com gift card.

Zuckerman said that her mother introduced her to reading as a young child and she would sit under the table and read.

Zuckerman learned about the program through friends,

signed up and told other friends where they signed up as well.

The Summer Reading Program is an annual program and is open to all ages. Rules and prizes vary by age group and it is free to participate.

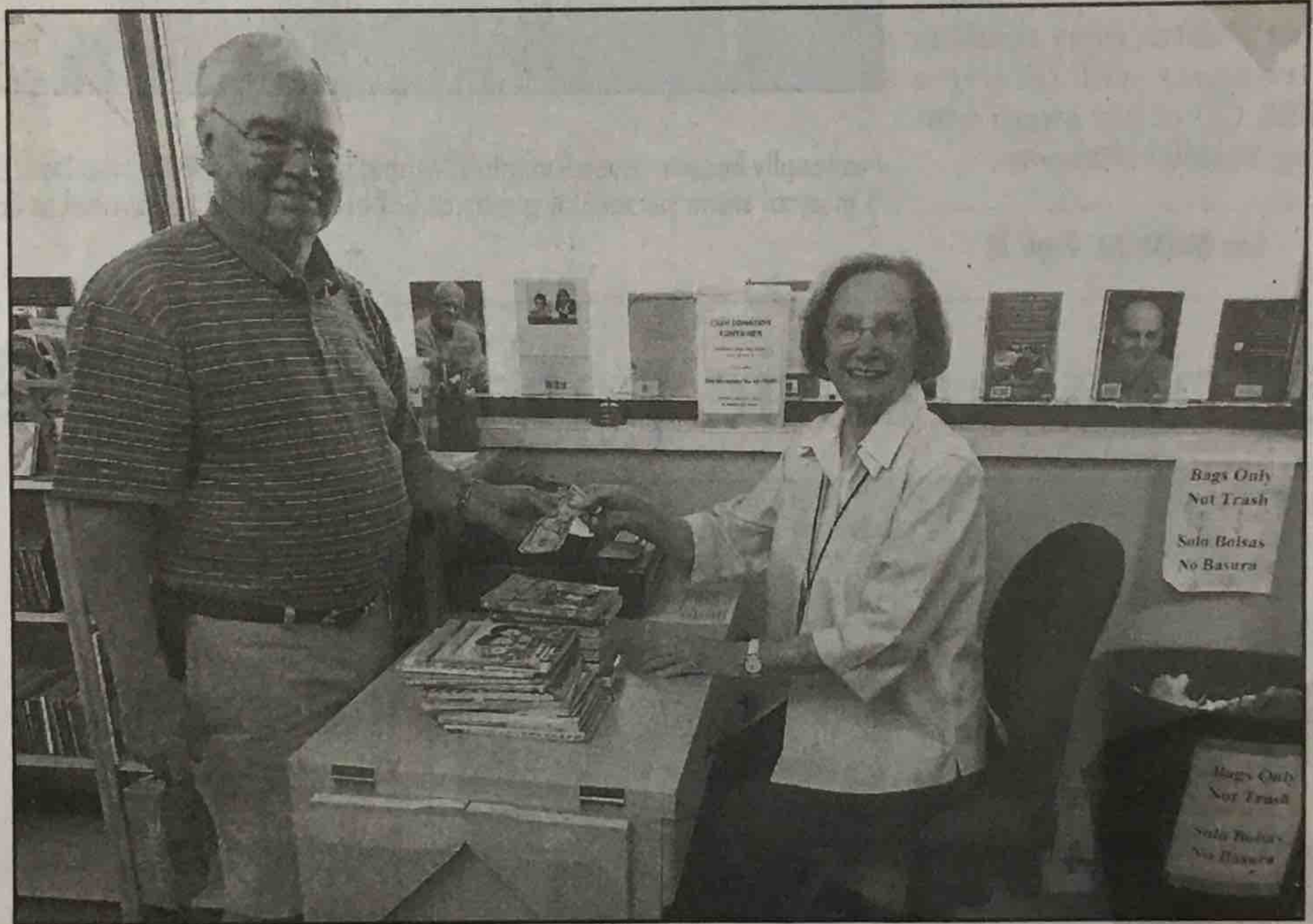
The Kingwood Library encourages anyone interested in reading to sign up for next year's program.

For more information, call 281-360-6804.

CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT

Photo by /

The state Texas Retired Teacher's Association with the local Humble chapter are collecting children's books for distribution in the Humble area. Pictured is Jim Landureth purchasing books from the Kingwood Library's FOLK bookstore. Gloria Nath is a member of the local HARTA group and a volunteer at the bookstore. This combined effort benefits the book donation project as well as the Kingwood library. The collection project will continue through the end of the year. If your organization is interested in donating as a service project, please contact Faith Hiller at 281-358-8556.



Create holiday cards at Kingwood Branch Library

Between Monday, Nov. 5, and Saturday, Nov. 17, community members are encouraged to stop by the library to decorate a holiday greeting card to be sent to troops serving overseas. Cards can be made at any time during the library's hours of

operation and materials will be set up in the Teen Room located on the second floor.

These cards will be collected and be delivered through U.S. Rep. Ted Poe's office. All ages are welcome to participate and all supplies are provided while supplies

last. For more information, 4400 Bens View Lane in call 281-360-6804 or visit Kingwood.



Local Toastmasters contribute to Kingwood Branch Library



From left, Kingwood Branch Librarian Christi Whittington accepted books from local Toastmasters club members Lanelle Johnston of Deerwood Toastmasters, Cheri Dyer of Insuperity Toastmasters, Mike Meyers of Kingwood Toastmasters and (not pictured) George Garrett of Kingwood Toastmasters. The books chosen showcase speaking skills, celebrate virtues and values that make us great, discuss how to discover leadership potential and more. *Photo by Macie Harper*