

Youth Services Board Report  
May 2013  
Prepared by Amy Albrecht, Library Coordinator

The Youth Services Department is excited to welcome our new Youth Services Coordinator, Michaela Watson. Michaela's first day will be on May 20<sup>th</sup> and she will be here just in time to coordinate programs and activities for summer.

The Youth Services department will begin the summer with a big kick-off celebration at both libraries on June 7<sup>th</sup> to promote the 2013 Summer Reading Program (SRP). Along with registering for the SRP, the celebration will include fun activities for the kids like face painting, bowling, a ring toss, and free balloons which were generously donated by Bob Tomes Ford. The mascot from the Frisco Texas Tornado Hockey Team, "Ike the Polar Bear", will visit with the kids and the Friends of the Library will hand out their membership information and promote Read Across McKinney. Youth can continue to sign up for the Summer Reading Program and enjoy fun programs throughout the summer.

This year's Summer Reading Program will be a success thanks to the generous donations from our community. Donations have been received by Chick-Fil-A, Burger King, Applebee's, Sonic, Jim's Pizza, Scotty P's, Palios, Dallas Zoo, Texas Tornado Hockey, Grapevine Legoland, and the Grapevine Aquarium. Each child will also receive a circus ticket from Ringling Brothers. The Friends of the Library also graciously help fund summer programs. With their assistance the library is able to host eight programs for school age children and one program for the teens. Performers for the summer include:

- Zooniversity with their outstanding educational programs about animals.
- Sandy Strout will perform the puppet show, "Goldyrocks and the Three Dinosaurs"
- James Wand will dazzle with his program, "Secret Agent Magic Show"
- Storytime Theater will present a live performance of "Gertrude McFuzzy and the Three Little Whos"
- For the teens: Main Street Magic and Fun will present a program and teach a few magic tricks for the group.

Preschool storytimes and music and movement programs will return, in addition to a "Reading Buddy" program which is a storytime that runs concurrently with the school-age performers. This allows parents to take younger siblings to a program of their own at the same time. The Youth Services staff will also create and present two additional programs for teens and coordinate a movie celebration for them at the end.

The summer themes of "Dig Into Reading" for the children and "Beneath the Surface" for the teens has allowed Youth Services Staff to have lots of fun planning programs for the youth. The Youth Services team has been diligent with making sure directions for the reading logs and flyer information is clear and understandable. The team goal is to hand out 4,000 logs this summer and to have a 50% completion of logs returned to the library. I feel this strong and vibrant team will not only meet this goal, but also present the best summer of programs and fun the McKinney Public Library System has ever seen.