

Library Board Report
RHHL Public Services Department
March 2016
Prepared by Helen Talley Public Services Coordinator

First of all I would like to introduce myself, my name is Helen Talley and I started my career at the McKinney Public Library System in October of 2001. I worked a variety of positions until settling in as a Young Adult Technician. I obtained my MLS in 2007 and became a Young Adult librarian then moved into a Collection Development Librarian position. In November 2015 I was promoted to Public Services Coordinator at RHHL. I currently manage the circulation staff and Susan Kusterbeck, Librarian I. In addition I maintain the schedule for a majority of library staff, coordinate adult programming at Hall, and purchase all Fiction materials for JJGL.

In late 2015 I took on the supervision of Interlibrary Loan services. This includes one full-time and one part-time technician. Ann Gustafson moved from the Interlibrary Loan Department into a full-time technical services position and we hired a new full-time technician, Rebecca Hantson, in February. Rebecca will not only work with Interlibrary Loans but will teach computer class's beginning in the fall. Rebecca is currently working with the Atomic Training system acquired by the library and plans to incorporate this software in her classes.

I am working on creating some exciting Adult programming. We've already had a successful program about FAA drone guidelines conducted by Eric Pratt, Airport Operations Manager for the McKinney National Airport. This spring there will be a number of programs sponsored by the Friends of the Library with book reviewers and authors. Martha Cavazos-Fipps, Environmental Education Coordinator with the city will conduct programs concerning Edible Landscapes and Native and Adaptive plants in North Texas.

Currently our ESL spring classes are in session. Susan reached out to the city's Communications Department as well as local organizations to recruit tutors and has been very successful. The AARP volunteers continue to provide IRS tax assistance every Friday and Saturday and this year have also offered assistance at JJGL.

I met with the director of the Samaritan Inn, along with Trevor Naughton, Youth Services technician, to coordinate services and outreach to better serve their residents. I'm also contacting local veteran's organizations to foster more outreach and general services for this population.

The library has a number of new databases and software and we allocate dedicated training time for staff to learn and practice the new programs. Public Services Staff meetings were sporadic during the Public Services Coordinator vacancy, however Jason Giang and I have begun scheduling monthly meetings again. Lisa Bailey and I attended a city-wide meeting concerning the new Open Carry laws and I have made it a priority to provide staff this information.

I'm still adjusting to my new position and look forward to new opportunities and innovations for myself and staff.