



# BETWEEN THE PAGES

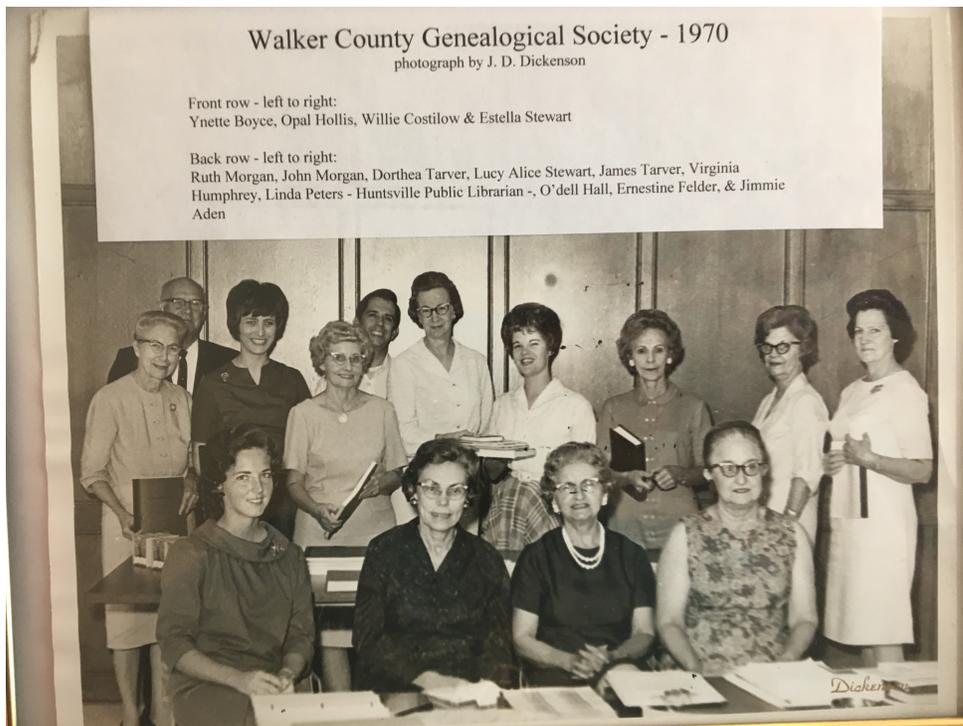
*Huntsville Public Library Monthly Newsletter*

## About the Johnnie Jo Sowell Dickenson Genealogy Room

By Josh Sabo, IT Services Coordinator

The Johnnie Jo Sowell Dickenson Genealogy Room at Huntsville Public Library is a hidden gem among genealogical research collections in Texas, especially those outside a major metropolitan area. This special collection includes more than 12,000 items such as Bible records, census records, confederate records, family surname records, prison records, microfilm, and many back-issues of *The Huntsville Item* dating back to 1859. The focus of the collection is Texas and the deep South.

The now extensive genealogy collection at Huntsville Public Library began in 1967 with a small number of books and genealogical records donated by library patrons and the Walker County Genealogical Society (WCGS). WCGS was founded by a group of local ladies who had a mutual interest in genealogy at the home of Mrs. Thomas E. Humphrey, Jr. in 1965. The Society's membership has grown continuously over the years and the group has also helped the library's genealogical collection grow as well.



In 2004, the genealogical/local history room was dedicated to and named in honor of then WCGS President Johnnie Jo Sowell Dickenson, who continued to serve as the Society's President until summer 2022. During Johnnie Jo's tenure, the genealogy room was renovated and enlarged along with the entire library and was formally dedicated on February 27, 2012. Library Genealogy Room staff member Toni Herrington, who has been with the library since 1982, has overseen the transformation of this special collection from a single shelf of materials to the amazing 2,200 square foot facility with over 12,000 items the community currently enjoys.

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

Monday-Friday  
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday  
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.



myhuntsvillelibrary.com



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## Genealogy, continued from page 1

In addition to the vast array of books, microfilm, and archive materials, the Genealogy Room also boasts a computer lab with access to several genealogy databases, including Ancestry Library Edition and Family Search, as well as document scanning and printing and a microfilm scanner. While the library continues to receive donations from the Society, patrons, and family estates in surrounding regions, we now have a budget for purchasing additional genealogical materials too.



The WCGS provides several opportunities for genealogical research, education, and networking through a set of annual events hosted at Huntsville Public Library. A lock-in the third Sunday of each February and a Summer Weekend Workshop each August both include a silent auction of one-of-a-kind books. A Genealogical Network of Texas event in celebration of Family History Month takes place the third Friday each October and the WCGS Annual Luncheon is held the third Saturday of each December.



For more about WCGS, please visit [www.wcgstx.org](http://www.wcgstx.org) or email [wcgensoc@yahoo.com](mailto:wcgensoc@yahoo.com). To learn more about the Johnnie Jo Sowell Dickenson Genealogy Room, please call Toni Herrington at 936.291.5473 or email her at [therrington@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:therrington@huntsvilletx.gov)

## "Free Rainwater: and Other Water Saving Tips" By Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator

Walker County's current severe drought and voluntary watering restrictions are good reasons to learn how to utilize our most valuable free resource – rainwater – now, and in the future.

The Walker County Master Gardeners and Huntsville Public Library invite you to a 90-minute, fact-filled seminar from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the library's Staggs Community Room on Monday, September 19, 2022. It will be presented by Sterling Johnson, an Advanced Master Gardener in Rainwater Harvesting. Mr. Johnson was formerly an instructor at Angelina College in Lufkin and will be sharing information on rainwater harvesting for residential garden use and self-watering garden containers.





## By Jalpa Shah, IT Services Coordinator

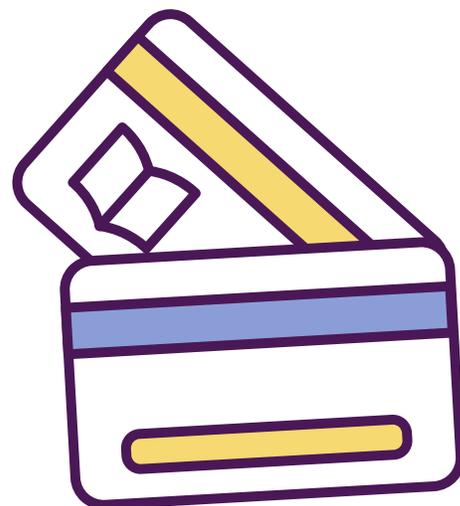
### Ways to Celebrate:

A library card is the most powerful tool in your wallet. September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Visit Huntsville Public Library to see what's new and take part in the celebration. Libraries across the country are participating. Do you have friends who don't have a library card? Invite them to sign up during September.

Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month with Loud Mouse! Tony Award-winning performer, actress, singer-songwriter, and philanthropist Idina Menzel and her sister, author and educator, Cara Menzel will serve as honorary chairs of Library Card Sign-Up Month 2022. Also in September, the sisters' debut picture book, *Loud Mouse*, about a little mouse named Dee who loves to sing very loudly, will be released by Disney Hyperion.

The Library Card Sign-Up month campaign first started in 1987 as a response to then Secretary of Education, William Bennett, who stated: "Let's have a campaign ... Every child should obtain a library card and use it." Since then, thousands of public libraries and schools have participated every fall, stressing the importance of obtaining a library card as a child's most important school supply.

If you are interested in getting a library card, bring a valid government issued photo ID and recent proof of current, permanent address. Recent, in this instance, means a piece of mail dated within the last 30 days addressed to the applicant, or current auto insurance or voter registration card. If you do not have proof of Texas residency, you can obtain a PC-Only card, which will allow you daily computer use. For more information, please call the library at 936-291-5472 or visit [myhuntsvillelibrary.com](http://myhuntsvillelibrary.com).



# New Young Adult Books at HPL

## By Elissa Myers, Children's Coordinator

Take a look at the many new books we've added to our young adult (YA) section! We always have new books coming in, but this month we have lots of new young adult books. If there are books you'd like to see in the library collection that we don't currently have, please let us know. We order books all the time, and we'll be happy to consider adding the books you suggest to the collection.



### If you like...

#### Superheroes:

- *Mera: Tidebreaker*
- *Poison Ivy: Thorns*
- *Zatanna: Jewel of Gravesend*
- *Superman Smashes the Klan*
- *Swamp Thing*

#### Manga:

- *Jojo's Bizarre Adventure*
- *The Ancient Magus Bride*
- *Jujutsu Kaisen*

#### Stories from history:

- *The Most Dazzling Girl in Berlin*
- *Displacement*
- *Vincent and Theo*
- *Days of Infamy*

#### Stories set in futuristic worlds:

- *Paper Girls*
- *Delirium*
- *On a Sunbeam*
- *Victories Greater than Heartbreak*
- *Pet*
- *The Marrow Thieves*
- *This Poison Heart*

#### Reading about the lives of real people:

- *Still Stace*
- *Welcome to St. Hell*
- *Ordinary Hazards*
- *The 57 Bus*
- *Revolution in Our Time*

#### Modern love stories:

- *The Heartbreak Bakery*
- *Nothing Burns as Bright as You*
- *You Should See Me in a Crown*
- *Fifteen Hundred Miles from the Sun*

#### Stories about teens growing up:

- *The Black Flamingo*
- *The Magic Fish*
- *Hollow Fires*

#### Fantasy love stories:

- *Wild Beauty*
- *Never Look Back*