



Welcome!

JPL would like to welcome everyone who has started volunteering with the library. We hope you find volunteering at the library to be exciting and rewarding.

Volunteer Appreciation Week

Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 19th – April 25th. The library would like to thank each and every one of you for all you do to make the library a great place for the citizens of Jacksonville. As a token of our appreciation you will be receiving a gift.

Meet the Volunteers at West Regional

Greg Pierce is the volunteer coordinator at the West Regional Branch. Below is an article he wrote about the volunteers at West Regional and includes a special message to all volunteers.

“I cannot imagine West Regional Library without our volunteers. We have been blessed to have them not only as resources to help out in the Library but as the wonderful people that they are. Volunteers at West are involved in all kinds of activities: from hosting children’s crafts programs to a new venture for us – teaching computer classes. And of course, everybody’s very favorite task - shelving. West runs at a participation rate of about 14 volunteers a month not including the surge of younger volunteers that occurs each summer.

I realize that as a volunteer coordinator this publication is not about me – but I would like to take a moment and say **THANK YOU** to whoever may read this. As volunteers, I hope you realize how valuable you are in so many ways. Yes, as a volunteer you do what is asked of you and I hope that some one is following you around with a huge sign saying **THANK YOU**. What you may not realize is that as people you are valued just for how special you are for the giving of yourself and of your time. I can not say **THANK YOU** enough for the gift of YOU. Sometimes I think that sentiment may get lost, and I did not want to lose an opportunity to **THANK YOU** for being this wonderful collection of people that cares enough to give of yourself to this organization that I am so proud to be a part of. **THANK YOU** making the library a great place to be – we could not do this without you!

All of the Volunteers at West are worthy of the SPOTLIGHT, but I managed to stop two of them long enough to ask them a couple questions.

Bich Tran has been volunteering at West since November of 2007. She is the anchor in our Children’s department. Retired from the work life as a financial analyst, Bich was looking for a way to occupy her time and give back to the community. When I asked her why she chose West Regional she said the “atmosphere – it’s professional and a pleasant place to be. Outside of the Library she is committed to working on her house, in her yard and to learning new computer languages. She will be taking a new challenge, working with Christian Martin our computer guru/instructor, helping to teach a few of the computer classes we are offering at West. I asked her what brings you joy? I could have answered for her because it shows every time she comes in – “helping people” she replied. “I helped with the income tax with AARP this year as well – when you help people you feel good, return to society what it has given you.” See why I say that they are always teaching me.

Our second spotlight falls on Christina Long a very active participant in the West regional family. Christina is a quick study and has been one of West's most versatile volunteers. She started working toward scholarship hours and has not stopped. She as well loves working the Children's department, hosting craft activities and helping with story time. Inspirational fiction is the bulk of her reading, with her favorite authors being: Karen Kingsbury, Lori Wick and Frank Peretti. She managed to fall under the spell of the latest craze of Twilight and hosted the West Regional Twilight Book Club for several meetings. When asked about her club and their status – "we'll probably start again after the release of New Moon (in motion picture). Prior to her activities at West, she attended high school and graduated 2nd in her class. Her ambitions are to start FCCJ in the fall and work toward a degree in graphic design. In the immediate future, she is trying to start an inspirational book club at West and invites anyone who is interested to call her at West Regional Library."

Volunteer Opportunities

Have you ever wanted to volunteer for one of the City's special events? Visit the Office of Volunteer Services website at www.coj.net to see a list of upcoming events.

Accolades

Congratulations to the following volunteers for their continued service:



5 Years of Service

Bob Bucher, Center for Adult Learning
Helen Hill, Center for Adult Learning

1 Year of Service

Peggy Boyer, Pablo Creek
Fely Cunanan, Center for Adult Learning
Joann Jewell, Pablo Creek
Alice Mauro, Southeast
Joyce McDonald, South Mandarin
Jane McEwen
Bich Tran, West Regional

1500 Hours of Service

John Hannon, Webb Wesconnett

1000 Hours of Service

Patricia McCullough, Main/Special Collections

500 Hours of Service

John Lawrence, Main/Talking Books Library

100 Hours of Service

Nancy Allen, Regency Square
Doroty Appell, Mandarin
Dorothy Benedict, Southeast
Gwen Borden, Pablo Creek
Ethan Box, Murray Hill
Frank Civitillo, South Mandarin
Kimberly Garrett, Pablo Creek
Victoria Grey, Webb Wesconnett
Julius Maito, Center for Adult Learning
Randy Mapanoo, Pablo Creek
Amber Rivera, Argyle
Matthew Sugden-Kirsch, Willowbranch

Sudoku Puzzle

Try to fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box accommodates the digits 1 – 9, without repeating any.

						9		
				2	9	5		
		1						6
	4		1				3	
5	2							
9								
		7	6	9				
							1	
						2		