

Special points of interest:

- Panny Flautt Mayfield Is Guest Speaker at Lunch With Books in April
- National Library Week is April 9th-13th
- Talking Books Service

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Friends of the Library—Book Sale News

It was a good sale, with lots of hard work from volunteers and lots of happy book buyers. We grossed \$2,798, with just over half of that amount coming during the first, frantic day of the sale. That first day is always our best day. A dozen or so eager customers, with bags and boxes in hand, had lined up at the door waiting for the sale to begin. Over the five-day period, 536 customers and browsers walked through the sale. Many came more than once. We probably sold over 5,000 books, DVD's, CD's, etc.

The books we had to offer this year were of unusually high quality, with many if not most still bearing their shiny book jackets. Our most popular categories were children's books, paperback and hardback novels, mysteries, and cookbooks.

It takes us four days—three full days and two half days—to set up the sale. Twelve volunteers from the Friends participated in that hard work—as did several library staff members. We couldn't have handled set-up without



the cooperation of the Bolivar County Regional Correctional Center, which on the first day loaned us a deputy and several strong inmates to move furniture and to haul the books, tables, and shelving from storage to the sale room. At the end of the sale, the Correctional Center helped us break down the sale and return tables and shelving to storage.

From set-up to close-down, the sale is work-intensive and time-consuming, and depends totally on volunteer help. During the sale itself, 21 volunteers from the Friends served as sales staff for two or more hours each. The volunteers are all book-lovers and are happy to see good books find new homes. It is rewarding to see how eager customers are to shop for books. Who could imagine that anyone

would say about, of all things, a book sale, "I look forward to this event all year" or "This day (the first day of the sale) is the most exciting day of the year for me so far." We heard those comments, and others like them, at the sale.

We are frequently asked, "What do y'all do with all the left-over books?" We always donate several boxes of books to various social services, assisted living facilities, and veterans homes, and this year the Correctional Center and Parchman were interested in taking a large number of leftovers. We are glad to put the books to good use. Some of the books also get recycled to the Friends of the Library's sale room in Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library [Cleveland]. If you haven't visited that room yet, check it out.

Thanks to all our volunteers. A big thanks to all who donate books for the sale. And a big thanks, too, to all our book-loving customers.

~Carol Manning~
Book Sale Chair

Lunch With Books on April 12th Features Panny Flautt Mayfield



Panny Flautt Mayfield, a Tutwiler native, is an award-winning journalist and photographer of blues and gospel musicians performing at festivals, clubs, churches, and juke joints. Her collections, which have been exhibited in museums across the U.S. and Europe, have received

critical acclaim and she was nominated for the 2018 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award for her photography.

Ms. Mayfield will be the guest speaker for the Lunch With Books program on April 12th, where she will talk about her work and her book *Live From the Mississippi Delta*. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System.

A book signing will follow the program. To purchase copies of Ms. Mayfield's book, contact Cotton Row Bookstore by April 6th at 843.7083.

Bring your lunch and join us for this exciting program at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland on April 12th at 12 Noon. As always, admission is free and soft drinks will be provided.

LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

Talking Books Services



Picture of talking book digital cartridges and digital player machines

The Talking Books Service is provided by the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) for eligible MS residents who are unable to read standard print, whether it is from a visual, physical, or organic reading disability (such as dyslexia).

Program participants may choose to receive talking books and magazines on digital cartridges (this option includes the loan of a digital talking-book player); Braille books and magazines; or large print books. Additionally, children may also receive Sensory Story

Kits that include one print/Braille book and a number of items related to the story to enhance the child's reading experience.

Participants may opt to select their own titles or have materials selected for them from among 39 subject categories, including romance, classics, mystery and detective, and bestsellers. Other options include the ability to exclude books with strong language, violence, and/or explicit sex scenes from among your selections, as well as receiving

materials in a foreign language.

If you or someone you know would benefit from the Talking Books Service, please stop by the library and pick-up an application. In most cases, Bolivar County Library System staff can certify your application and once you finish filling it out, just mail it to the address listed on the application.

Once they receive your completed application, MLC will contact you or the person desiring to join the service for additional information. It's that simple!

Calendar

"I fell in love with reading when I was allowed to choose whatever books I wanted to check out of the library."
~Adriana Trigiani~

April 13th, 20th, 27th, May 4th, 11th & 18th —**Preschool Story-hour @ 10 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland; NOTE: May 18th is Last Friday Storyhour Program Until September

April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd—**Saturday Preschool Story-hour @ 11 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland; NOTE: The Saturday Storyhour Continues on the First Saturday of Each Month Year-Round

April 9th—**National Library Week Patron Appreciation Day**—Free Popcorn All Day

April 10th—**Making Robots @ 4 p.m.**—For Grades 6th-12th—Open to the Public

April 11th—**Tinkering With Circuits @ 4 p.m.**—For Grades 6th-12th—Open to the Public

April 12th—**Lunch With Books Featuring Panny Flaatt Mayfield @ 12 Noon**—in Cleveland; Admission & Soft Drinks Are Free

April 18th—**Cleveland Commission @ 10:00 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

April 18th—**Board of Trustees Meeting @ 1:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

May 10th—**Lunch With Books Featuring Brenda Haynes Brown @ 12 Noon**—in Cleveland; Admission & Soft Drinks Are Free

May 28th—**Memorial Day**—All Libraries Are Closed

Darden North Visits Robinson-Carpenter

Mississippi author Darden North was guest speaker at the Lunch With Book program on March 8th. Dr. North, an OB/GYN physician, talked about his books, his writing career, and how his medical knowledge impacts his novels.



Dr. Darden North above with library patron Randolph Blakeman at the book signing.

Dr. North graciously answered questions from the audience, followed by a book signing.



Inter-Library Loan

Have you heard of our Inter-Library Loan (or ILL, for short) program. If we don't have an item that you would like to read, you can request it by filling out a Request Card at the Circulation Desk at any branch. If we choose not to purchase the item, we will try to ILL it from another library. You may request books, eBook, and audiobooks through ILL. Ask about the program at the Circulation Desk next time you visit.

Heart of Black History

We celebrated Black History Month with our annual Heart of Black History program on February 22nd. This year's theme was "Hidden Figures," featuring African Americans who made significant contributions to history, but whom you may not have heard of. The program was hosted by Teen Advisory Group (TAG) and featured a variety of presentations, including dramatic readings and vocal performances.



National Library Week is April 9th—13th

National Library Week was organized in 1958 as a way to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of libraries and librarians across the nation—public, school, and academic. Traditionally, public libraries raise awareness during National Library Week by offering special programming—and we've planned some great programs this year! All programs are open to the public and free of charge.

April 9th—Patron Appreciation Day. Stop by for free popcorn, which will be available all day.

April 10th at 4 p.m.—Making Robots (Lego Mind Storming). Designed for grades 6th-12th, but everyone is invited.

April 11th at 4 p.m.—Tinkering with Circuits. Designed for grades 6th-12th, but everyone is invited.

April 12th at 12 Noon—Lunch With Books featuring MS author and journalist Panny Flautt Mayfield talking about her book *Live From The Mississippi Delta*. A book signing will follow the program.

April 13th at 10 a.m.—Preschool Storyhour. A special storyhour to celebrate National Library Week.

Stop by and help us celebrate!

*"I'm not comfortable
being preachy, but
more people need to
start spending as
much time in the
library as they do on
the basketball court."*

~Kareem Abdul-

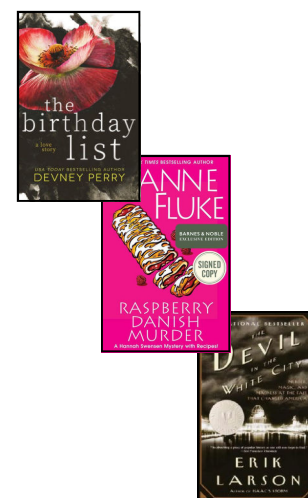
Jabbar~

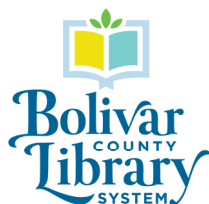
Looking for a Good Book?

Martha: *Birthday List* by Devney-Perry. Jamie is a goofball who decides to make a "Birthday List" of things to do before his next birthday. When Jamie dies without completing the list, his wife Poppy eventually decides to complete the list with the help of Cole, the policeman who investigated her husband's murder. This is such a great story about how Poppy learns to live and love again. It is very heartwarming. I thoroughly enjoyed this one. (Fiction—ILL)

Tamara: *The Raspberry Danish Murder* (a Hannah Swensen Mystery #22) by Joanne Fluke. Hannah's husband Ross is still missing and there are no clues to his whereabouts, then Ross's assistant dies under suspicious circumstances. Is his death related to Ross's disappearance? Hannah, with the help of her sisters and friends, is determined to find the answer. Great fun and recipes, too! (Fiction—Print)

Tamara: *Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America* by Erik Larson. Vividly details the true story of the obstacles and hardships involved in bringing the World's Fair to Chicago in 1893, and the sophisticated serial killer Dr. H. H. Holmes who was killing during the same time period. History enthusiasts will especially enjoy this thoroughly researched and suspenseful account. (Non-Fiction—Print)





Bolivar County Library System

104 South Leflore Avenue
Cleveland, MS 38732-2607

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00—6:00
Friday 9:00—5:00
Saturday 9:00—1:00

Closed Sundays & All Legal Holidays

Phone: (622) 843-2774
Fax: (662) 843-4701
Email: info@bolivar.lib.ms.us

Individual phone numbers and email addresses may be found at our website.

"Like" us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/lbcls; you may also access the page from our website.



Contact the Friends:
Phone: (662) 843-2774
Email: lfshurden@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

<http://bolivar.lib.ms.us>



Some Bolivar County History...

"Incidents of the War in Bolivar County, As Experienced by a Ten-Year-Old Boy, and as Given by Him

By Walter Sillers—Continued

The story began last newsletter with the recounting of the courage of Mr. Siller's mother as the home of Major W. E. Montgomery was being set on fire by members of the Marine Fleet, who, when fired upon, gave chase to a "straggling Confederate"...

In the meantime, Colonel Curry had sent a squad of men up the Bogue to reconnoiter, where they captured my uncle, Mr. George Baldwin, formerly of Natchez, who, with some Negroes, had placed a piano on a flatboat to take to the place on the Bogue where our family had refuged from the shelling of the gunboats on the river. The Yankees ordered the flatboat ashore, took Mr. Baldwin prisoner, and blew up the piano with powder.

After the capture of Memphis, the Federal gunboats came down the river, and when Vicksburg was attacked, hundreds of boats, bearing Grant's army to the siege, filled the river. Stark's cavalry regiment was stationed in Bolivar County and selected the great bend of the river—now Lake Beulah—north of Prentiss and south of Beulah, as their place of operation. To this company was attached an artillery company with guns called "six-pounders." One day, I was overjoyed to find this military company throwing up a fortification on the river bank along our plantation, with the view of sinking a gunboat they had crippled near Yerger's Lane. The public levee was about a hundred yards to the rear of the fortification and I had taken my position safely behind the levee to watch the battle. But I was doomed to disappointment; a courier galloped up to inform the artillery company of the attempted escape of the gunboat through the "chute." Soon after they had left, this same gunboat came around the bend of the river and passed the "fort." A furious and disappointed boy, in telling the story, said that if he had been in charge of the fort, he would have kept part of the cannon, at least, and landed the gunboat."

Walter Sillers exciting story will be continued in the next newsletter.

Excerpt from *History of Bolivar County, Mississippi* by Florence Warfield Sillers, et al (Spartanburg: SC: 1976 [1948])

Bolivar County Library System Information:

Board of Trustees:

Ms. Natalie Peeler, Chair
Ms. Rebecca Lewis, Vice Chair
Mr. John Raymond Bassie, Secretary
Mr. Nathaniel Grammer
Ms. Maggie Crawford

Cleveland Commission:

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Ms. Dorothy Tolliver, Vice-Chair
Ms. Weegie Walker, Secretary
Ms. Carol Tatum
Ms. Cheryl Line

Library Staff:

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Sharon Williamson, Assistant Director
Melanie Free, Systems Administrator
Terry Jackson, ILL / Special Services
Tamara Blackwell, Reference Svcs / Newsletter Editor
Bobbie Matheney, Youth Svcs
Martha Lawson, Rosedale / Gunnison
Marie Shorter, Shelby
Evelyn Brown, Merigold / Circ.
Megan Fleming, Circulation Manager
Bethany Brooks, Technical Svcs
Tina McGee, Benoit/Circulation
Clara, Housekeeping

Shelby Lee, Circulation
Jelisa "Lisa" Hatcher, Circulation
Kevin Reed, Circulation
Mike Emerson, Circulation

Branch Information:

Benoit (662) 742-3112
Hours M & Th 1—5
Gunnison—(662) 747-2201
Hours T & Th 1—5
Merigold (662) 748-2105 (ph) /
(662) 748-2596 (fax)
Hours M, T, W & Th 1—5
Rosedale (662) 759-6332
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5
Shelby (662) 398-7748
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5
Mound Bayou—Closed Until Further Notice
Shaw—Closed Until Further Notice