

LITERACY



TECHNOLOGY



COMMUNITY

LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

Volume XII, Issue I

Special points of interest:

- Tina McGee is Featured in We're the... Librarians! Column
- Lunch With Books Featuring Evelyn McKee
- Photos From the Open House at Rosedale

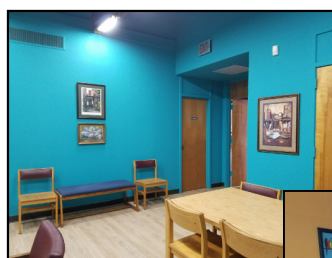
Director's Corner—Rosedale Public Library Renovation

Over 300 people turned out for our Open House at the newly renovated Rosedale Public Library on January 26th. The outpouring of love for the Rosedale Public Library has been overwhelming and so meaningful to us at the Bolivar County Library System.

Fundraising for the renovation was a community effort with almost \$30,000 in donations being raised for the renovation. With funds raised we were able to replace the old, leaky roof and siding, paint the exterior, repair damaged dry-wall and paint the interior, and replace the musty, smelly carpet.

This renovation process was a team effort and our sincerest thanks go out to those who played a role in this effort.

Martha Lawson, Branch Librarian, and Becky Lewis, Library Board Member, have advocated tirelessly



for the library; the beautiful renovation is a testament to their service and efforts. Thank you, Martha and Becky.

The churches of Rosedale were particularly generous and supportive of the renovation effort. Thank you.

Thank you to the businesses of Rosedale who supported this project.

Thank you to Debbie Leftwich for donating her interior design expertise, and to Katherine Crump for donating her fundraising expertise.

Mr. Jimmie Smith for donating his time and labor to reinstall all of our bookshelves safely and securely. Thank you, Mr. Smith.



Thank you to the Friends of the Bolivar County Library for hosting the

Open House, and for providing additional funds for new furnishings in the Rosedale Library coming later this year.

The Rosedale Public Library is open Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Friday from noon – 5 p.m. In 2017, the Rosedale Public Library received over 8,200 visits, and is the second busiest branch of the Bolivar County Library System.

Inside this issue:

We're the... Librarians! 2

Calendar 2

Author Visit / LearningExpress 2

Open House at Rosedale Photos 3

Heart of Black History 3

Looking for a Good Book? 3

Some Bolivar County History... 4

Lunch With Books featuring Evelyn McKee



The Friends of the Bolivar County Library System are pleased to welcome Mississippi author Evelyn McKee as guest speaker at the Lunch With Books program on February

8th. Ms. McKee will talk about her book *Mrs. Strong Women*.

Ms. McKee, a Cleveland native, traveled as a military spouse and

lived in Arizona for five years before returning to Cleveland. She confides that she discovered her passion for writing at a very young age, but it was being a full-time mother that enabled her to pursue her writing and eventually publish *Mrs. Strong Woman* in August 2016. Ms. McKee is married to Joseph McKee and mother to A'Kaychia, Teya, and twins Jessica and Joselyn.

A book signing will follow Ms. McKee's program and copies of her book will be available for purchase.

Bring your lunch and join us for this fun program at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland on February 8th at 12 Noon. As always, admission is free and soft drinks will be provided.



LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

We're the... Librarians! Featuring Tina McGee



Tina McGee, a native of Rosedale, joined the library system in September 2015 and divides her hours as the Branch Librarian at Benoit and the Circulation Desk in Cleveland. Tina attended West Bolivar School District, Coahoma Community College, Mississippi Valley State University, and the now Walter C. Robinson Achievement Center.

Tina believes that librarians are special and adds, "I feel that I could make people feel special in some way [too]. Because I am special, the best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched—they must be felt with the heart of a librarian."

Tina enjoys working with young people, which is evident in her commitment to the Summer Library Program. To prepare, Tina attends the Summer Library Workshop offered each winter by the Mississippi Library Commission (Mississippi's state library), which holds the workshop for librarians. Each year, Summer Library Program has a different theme and the workshop presents new, innovative ideas that Tina loves to work into her local program.

"To all the young people and other Librarians who read this," Tina continues, "I intend to keep up the good work." And Tina reminds you that "when in doubt, ask a librarian!"



Tina in costume for last year's Summer Library Program's Build a Better World theme

"I must say I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a good book."
~Groucho Marx~

Calendar

February 9th, 16th, 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th—**Preschool Storyhour @ 10 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

February 3rd, March 3rd & April 7th—**Saturday Preschool Storyhour @ 11 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

February 6th—**Seniors Day Out!** at 10 a.m.—Open to the Public.

February 8th—**Lunch With Books Featuring Evelyn McKee @ 12 Noon**—In Cleveland; Admission and Soft Drinks Are Free

February 27th - **Heart of Black History @ 4 p.m.**—Open to the Public

February 19th—**Presidents' Day**—All Libraries Are CLOSED

February 21st—**Cleveland**

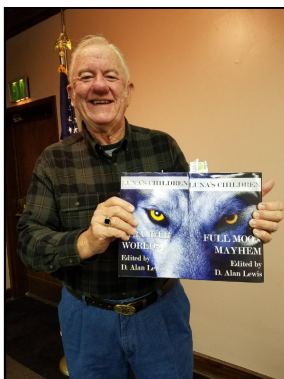
Commission @ 10:00 a.m.—Open to the Public in Cleveland

February 21st—**Board of Trustees Meetings @ 1:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

March 8th—**Lunch With Books Featuring Darden North @ 12 Noon**—in Cleveland; Admission and Soft Drinks Are Free

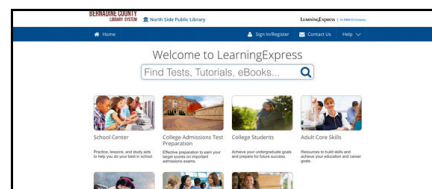
March 30th—**Good Friday**—All Libraries Are CLOSED

Author Visit



MS author M. R. Williamson was guest speaker at the January Lunch With Books program. He shared that he has been writing full time since he retired from "Ma Bell" and is a dedicated advocate for small publishers. His books, including *Can You See Me?*, *The Moleskin Cap*, *The Angle of Hollo-way*, as well as Books 1 & 2 in his series *The Pragmore Chronides*, are all available for check-out.

LearningExpress Library™ Update



LearningExpress Library™ is introducing a new user interface that will go "live" on February 14th. The new interface is easier to use and features:

- Access with fewer clicks
- No carousel

- More prominent search box with new functionality
- Is easy to read on all mobile devices with a more responsive design
- Users can find available resources on the home page
- Has improved speed and performance

Visit the new, updated LearningExpress Library™ on February 14th and see what the excitement is about.

Open House Celebrates Renovation of the Rosedale Public Library

Below, Martha Lawson, Jennifer Wann, and Joyce Applegate



Heart of Black History

In celebration of Black History Month, the Library System is pleased to announce the annual Heart of Black History program on February 27th at 4 p.m. The program will feature poetry, dance, songs, stories, and more. The theme is "Hidden Figures" and will feature lesser known individuals in Black History.

While the program is designed for children 12 and under, the program is free and open to anyone who would like to attend.

Anyone who is interested in performing in the program should contact Bobbie Matheney by February 13th at 662.843.2774 x105.



Right, Rosedale librarian Martha Lawson with former Rosedale librarian Joyce Applegate and Martha's husband Jerry Lawson



Above, BCLS Board member Rebecca "Becky" Lewis

"Without the library, I would have been lost."

~Jesmyn Ward~

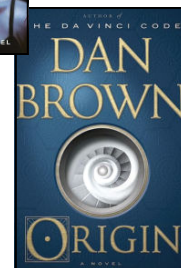
Looking for a Good Book

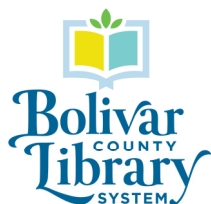
Shelby: *Silence Fallen* (a Mercy Thompson Novel #10) by Patricia Briggs. In this tenth novel in the series, Mercy has settled into her pack and mated with Adam. When she is kidnapped by the most powerful vampire in the world, her ties to the pack and Adam are severed and she must fend for herself... I like that after thinking she was the last of her kind, Mercy is now learning about what

she is. I found her swapping of viewpoints to be a confusing, but enjoyed the book the book nonetheless. It's good! (Fiction—Print)

Tamara: *Origin* by Dan Brown. Another fast-paced, symbol-laden, conspiracy thriller from the author of *The Da Vinci Code*. This time around, our favorite Harvard professor of symbology and religious iconology Robert Langdon attends a special

presentation at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. A former student plans a major announcement that "will change the face of science forever," a claim that upsets the religious community. When an assassin strikes, Robert, now a target himself, scrambles to find and share the secret—before it is lost to the world forever. A highly entertaining page turner. (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

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

My mother was a sister of General Charles Clark and was gifted with his courage and fortitude, yet was of a gentle and loving disposition, with a Christian faith seldom seen. Only once did I ever see her really angry during the war. Members of the Marine Fleet, under Colonel Curry, were setting fire to the beautiful colonial home of Major W. E. Montgomery, whose wife was a daughter of General Clark, and my mother's niece. Colonel Curry had orders to save whatever belonged to General Clark in this home. My mother assisted her niece in selecting furniture to be spared and ordered a soldier to cut away the doorway to remove the piano. The officer said, “You people had better be thinking of something else besides music.” Drawing herself up imperiously, my mother replied: “Though you drive us to the woods, sir, we will take our music with us.”

Not often did our ladies give vent to their indignation over the actions of the Federals, but during the burning of this home the faces of my mother and cousin showed such anger and scorn as to deeply impress me, a boy of ten years. When my mother saw me holding the horse of an orderly, who had given me his horse to hold while he lighted a cigar, she ran out of the house, where she was directing the removal of the piano, rushed up to me and snatched the bridle from my hand, exclaiming: “How dare you hold this Yankee's horse!” Much to my relief, the young fellow smiled, and my mother returned to her task. Just at this moment, sharp firing occurred along the line of troops, and the Federals ran from the house and fell into line. A straggling Confederate had suddenly appeared on the opposite side of the Bogue (a stream about a hundred yards wide) and, seeing the squadron of Federals burning this home, had fired on them, and they returned the fire. The house being in flames, they wheeled into line and marched rapidly away to where the fleet awaited them at the river, at the foot of Yerger's Lane. This was the place where Stark's regiment attacked a Federal battery located on the river front and drove them back to the boats.”

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:

Ms. Jurist Green, Chair

Ms. Dorothy Tolliver, Vice-Chair

Ms. Weegie Walker, Secretary

Ms. Carol Tatum

Ms. Cheryl Line

Library Staff:

Jennifer Wann, Director

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

We're on the Web!

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

