

Director's Corner

The Bolivar County Master Gardeners are like busy bees all over town and luckily, the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library is a recipient of their goodwill. These volunteers maintain the flowerbeds at the Cleveland library. Recently, they pruned the rose bushes in the patio, mulched all the flower beds, added rock liners, and planted flowers in the planters at the rear entrance. I would like to thank these helpers for their hard work in helping keep our library and the whole community beautiful.

~Emily



Special points of interest:

- Evening With Books Featuring MS Author Dale Beasley (This Page)
- Seniors Day Out! Program Resumes in June (See Page 2)
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Evening With Books with Author Dale Beasley



The Friends of the Bolivar County Library System are pleased to welcome Mississippi author Dale Beasley as guest speaker for

an Evening With Books on May 31st at 6 p.m.

Mr. Beasley will talk about his book *What I Learned at the Zoo*

(BookBaby, April 2020), which is a fictionalized account of his 14th year in Yazoo City. Preorder the author's book or purchase a copy the day of the program at the Cotton Row Bookstore. Call the Bookstore at (662) 843-7083.

Mr. Beasley, a retired Iraqi War veteran, served for thirty-one years in the Army, was a trauma/emergency register nurse, and is a graduate of The University of

Southern Mississippi. He resides in Gluckstadt, Mississippi.

The public is invited to attend this free program featuring Dale Beasley in the Founders Room at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland. The program will begin at 6 p.m. and run approximately one hour. A book signing will follow the program.

We hope you will join us!

LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

“It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own.”

~Arthur Conan Doyle
from
Through the Magic Door

Meeting Rooms Re-Open at Cleveland, Rosedale & Shelby

We are pleased to announce that the meeting rooms in Cleveland, Rosedale, and Shelby are now open for reservations. To reserve a room, call the library where you wish to meet.

Permissible Uses: The meeting rooms may be used for gatherings of a community-oriented nature including non-profit, civic, cultural, informational, or educational uses, or by entities of the local, state, or federal government.

Prohibited Use:

- Meeting rooms may not be used for social gatherings that include, but are not limited

to: showers, parties, dances, reunions, sales meetings, recruitment drives, and weddings.

- Use of the meeting room for commercial activity is prohibited. Individuals or groups may not charge a fee for attendance, take up a collection or donation, or market or sell goods or services. Non-profit groups may charge for the cost of materials used in a program, food items, and/or membership dues.

- Meeting rooms may not be used for regularly scheduled religious services; however, religious study groups are permitted.

A representative from any group wishing to reserve a room must complete an application found at Appendix J of the Meeting Room Policy, which may be obtained at the Branch where you wish to meet or go to our website at <<https://bolivar.lib.ms.us>> to print a copy. The application must be renewed each year and whenever the representative of a group changes.

Calendar

May 31st—**Evening With Books Featuring Dale Beasley @ 6 p.m.**—Founders Room at Robinson-Carpenter (Cleveland)

June 1st, June 8th, June 15th, and June 22nd—**Summer Library Program (Shelby) @ 1 p.m.**—Dr. Robert T. Hollingsworth (Shelby)

June 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th, July 7th, 14th, 21st,

28th—**Summer Library Program (Merigold) @ 3 p.m.**—Open to the Public at Thelma Rayner (Merigold)

June 7th—**Seniors Day Out! @ 10:00-11:30 a.m.**—Robinson-Carpenter (Cleveland)

June 9th, June 14th, June 16th, June 21st, June 23rd, June 28th, and July 19th—**Summer Library Program (Cleveland) @ 10:30 a.m.**—Robinson-Carpenter (Cleveland)

June 11th—**Book Signing Featuring Anthony & Elizabeth Olivi Borgognoni @ 1 p.m.**—Open to the Public at Rosedale Public Library

June 15th, July 20th, September 21st,—**Board of Trustees Meeting @ 1:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter (Cleveland) (No Meeting in August)

June 15th, July 20th, September 21st—**Library Commission Meeting @ 10 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Robinson-Carpenter (Cleveland) (No Meeting in August)

June 25th—**Book Signing Featuring Linda Williams Jackson**—Time TBA—Open to the Public at Rosedale Public Library—Watch for Flyers or Call the Library at (662) 759-6332

Rotary Club



Rotary Club members Emily Bell, director of the Bolivar County Library System (on the right), and Jay Joel welcomed Abbie Kate Hancock from the Make A Wish Foundation as guest speaker for the Cleveland Rotary Club on April 7, 2022.

Seniors Day Out!

The Seniors Day Out! program will resume on June 7th from 10:00—11:30 a.m. This fun program is for older adults who want to get out of the house, visit with friends, and play BINGO. There will be BINGO prizes and refreshments will be served.

The Seniors Day Out! program is the first Tuesday of every other month from 10—11:30 a.m.

We hope to see you there!



Summer Library Programs Begin in June in Cleveland, Shelby, and Merigold



Summer is almost here and there is an Ocean of Possibilities with the Summer Library Program!

Bobbie, Marie, and Rachel have planned a bunch of fun activities for children at their libraries. In Cleveland, the program is for kids entering grades 1st through 6th, but in Shelby and Merigold, the programs are for kids of all ages.

In Cleveland, registration is required and may be

completed at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. up through the first program. All Cleveland programs are from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

- June 9th—Todd Davis talks about water sports and kayaking specifically.
- June 14th & 16th—Shark Week and an Origami Challenge
- June 21st—Wanda Woodard from MDOT
- June 23rd—Hunter Kovac from the Cleveland Waste

Water Department

- June 28th—Ashley Kerr from Bolivar County Extension Services
- July 19th—Christopher Mathis, who is the Chief Meteorologist from the Delta News

Call Bobbie for more info about programs at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland at (662) 843-2774, extension 105.

In Shelby, registration is not required and all programs are from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.:

- June 1st—Crafts and Activities
- June 8th—Crafts and Activities
- June 15th—Crafts and Activities
- June 22nd—Crafts and Activities

Call Marie for more info about programs at Dr. Robert T. Hollingsworth Public Library in Shelby at (662) 398-7748.

In Merigold, registration is also not required and all programs begin at 3 p.m.:

- June 2nd, July 7th—Bead Making
- June 9th, July 14th—Fun With Plarn! (Plarn is plastic yarn.)
- June 16th, July 21st—Simple Book Binding
- June 23rd, July 28th—Starburst Wrapping Jewelry
- June 30th—Magazine Crafts

Call Rachel for more info about programs at Thelma Rayner Memorial Library in Merigold at (662) 748-2105.

Looking for a Good Book?

Samantha: *Mrs. England* by Stacey Hall. In 1904, wealthy couple Charles and Lillian England of West Yorkshire hire Ruby May to be their new nanny. Ruby May, who looking for a fresh start and is hopeful about her new position, finds their home Hardcastle House a bit isolated and Mrs. England a little—well, off. And while Mr. England is quite warm and welcoming—the staff sure isn't. A series of strange events soon turns an odd situation into a sinister one. I recommend *Mrs. England* if you like books about secrets—the book is basically about a family that is full of secrets and a nanny they hired, who has a secret of her own. . . (Fiction—Print)

Martha: *Never Fall for Your Fiancé* by Virginia Heath. Set in Regency England, it's laugh out loud funny and also very touching. The hero invents a "fake" fiancé to get his mother, who lives in America, off

his back about marrying. Then his mother writes that she is coming to visit and wants to meet his fiancé! With a fortnight to figure out what to do, he hires a fiancé, of course!! This is where the fun begins because he's been writing his mother for two years about his fiancé! Unfortunately, mum shows up in two days instead of two weeks!! I really enjoyed this one and look forward to reading more from her. (Fiction—Large Print)

Tamara: *Sisters of the Undertow* : A Novel by Mississippi author Johnnie Bernhard. A heartbreaking study of two sisters who are very different and one sister's inability to reconcile her feelings of abandonment and seething resentment she harbors for her parents and her loving but different sister. The author perfectly captures Kim's angst and inability to change. Kim knows she isn't being fair or rational—but she still can't change her feelings. It takes an event of

monumental proportions to bring about a change. Difficult to read because it rings so true and a very good book! (Fiction—Print)

Tamara: *The Last Taxi Driver* by Mississippi author Lee Durkee. This book is hilariously funny, unrelentingly depressing, and heartbreaking—often, all at the same time. A view of what life looks like when you are down on your luck due to age, illness, drug addiction, the harshness of life in general, usually combined with the lack of money, and how difficult life is to survive in these circumstances. We experience this from the perspective of a taxi driver, who is struggling to understand Buddhism, reads Shakespeare, sees UFOs, is obsessed with Bigfoot—and who also happens to be very down on his luck. Excellent book! **ADVISORY:** There is a lot of profanity, as well as illegal drug use in this book. (Fiction—Print)

“Libraries are the thin red line between civilization and barbarism.”

~Neil Gaiman



Bolivar County Library System

104 South Leflore Avenue
Cleveland, MS 38732-2607

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9a.m.—6p.m.
Friday 9a.m.—5p.m.
Saturday 9a.m.—1p.m.
Sunday Closed

All Branches Are Closed on All Legal
Holidays (Except Columbus Day) and on
Good Friday; note that If Friday is a Legal
Holiday, the Saturday Following It Will Be
Closed, Too.

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:
www.facebook.com/1bccls; you may
also access the page from our website.



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

We're on the Web:
<https://bolivar.lib.ms.us/>

Some Bolivar County History...

“Rosedale by Florence Sillers Ogden

Foreword: In writing the history of Rosedale I am indebted to Mrs. Rosa Belle McGuire Shelby and the files of the *Bolivar County Democrat* for much of the material on the early history of the town; and to Mrs. Lorine Rush Goza for material from her article on Rosedale which was in the original history, compiled in 1926. I am especially indebted to Mrs. Shelby for the material on early schools and the early lighting system of the town and for the story of Rosedale Plantation, the history of the name and of the landings.

Introduction

Rosedale, situated on the Mississippi River, opposite a point half-way between the mouths of the White and Arkansas rivers, is the county seat of the First Judicial District of Bolivar County, and is second in size only to Cleveland. The population in 1945 was 2,100, of which about three-fifths were black. May J. L. Wilson, elected in 1916, has served continuously for thirty years, except for a short interim. The town is well organized and ably administered. Rosedale has progressed with the times, yet it still retains a breath of the long-ago for it is rich in history and tradition. Its tree-arched streets, shaded parks, and comfortable homes bespeak a people of gentle breeding and good taste. Its paved streets and modern improvements indicate a progressive spirit.

Early History

In 1838 there was a river landing just below the present Rosedale cemetery, known as Abel's Point, located on the property of Judge Joseph McGuire, who gave it to his daughter Eliza as a wedding gift when she married Colonel Lafayette Jones, in 1855. Colonel Jones named the plantation “Rosedale,” after his plantation home in Charlottesville, Virginia. The name of the landing was changed from Abel's Point to Rosedale, and Colonel Jones built a store there. Soon there was a little settlement and a post office was granted which he called Rosedale. Early postmasters were: Colonel Jones, 1857; Jaheil Railsbach, 1866; Will C. P. Jones, 1863; and the Reverend W. W. Truslow, 1871. Due to sand-bar formations, Rosedale Landing was moved down the levee across the ramp directly opposite the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Welshans. Later it was moved down to a point exactly back of the present site of the Refuge Cotton Oil Mill. The landing was spoken of as “Lower Rosedale” and was not a part of the original plantation.”

This article will be continued in the next newsletter.

Excerpt from *History of Bolivar County, Mississippi* (DAR, 1948) by Florence Warfield Sillers, et al.

Bolivar County Library System Information

Board of Trustees:

- Mr. Nathaniel Grammer, Chair
- Ms. Katherine Crump, Vice-Chair
- Ms. Maggie Crawford
- Ms. Anita Reginelli
- Ms. Lynn Shurden

Cleveland Commission:

- Ms. Jurist Green, Chair
- Ms. Dorothy Tolliver, Vice-Chair
- Ms. Carol Tatum
- Ms. Cheryl Line
- Ms. Heather Walker

Library Staff:

- Emily Bell, Director
- Melissa Robinson, Office Manager
- Melanie Free, Systems Administrator
- Tamara Blackwell, Reference / Newsletter Editor
- Martha Lawson, Rosedale
- Bobbie Matheny, Youth Svcs
- Marie Shorter, Shelby
- Kevin Reed, Circulation
- Valency Rogers, Technical Svcs
- Anna Sims, Circulation
- Samantha Williams, Circulation
- Rachel Guerry, Circulation/ Merigold
- Clara, Housekeeping
- Donny, Housekeeping

Rosedale Public Library

(662) 759-6332/Fax: 734-0825
702 Front Street
Hours: M & W 10a.m.-5p.m.
T & Th 1p.m.—5p.m.
F 12p.m.—5p.m.
Martha Lawson, Librarian

Dr. Robert T. Hollingsworth Public Library (Shelby)

(662) 398-7748/Fax: 775-7002
211 Third Street
Hours M & W 10a.m.—5p.m.
F 12p.m.—5p.m.
Marie Shorter, Librarian

Thelma Rayner Memorial Library (Merigold)

(662) 748-2105/Fax 748-2596
201 Front Street
Hours: T & Th—1p.m.-5p.m.
Rachel Guerry, Librarian