

**Special points of interest:**

- Grape Expectations Benefit Gala is Friday, January 25th!
- Lunch With Books Feature MS Author Meredith Coleman McGee in December
- Children’s Book Author Undra Williams Visited Rosedale

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**Donate to Benefit Friends of the Library**

Have you heard of **Consign for a Cause** consignment shop? **Consign for a Cause** opened for business on May 3, 2018, and they offer a great way to support your local public libraries through the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System through consignment shop donations!

All you need to do to support your local public libraries is take in “as is” the items you would like to donate to the **Consign for a Cause** consignment shop at 408 South Street in Cleveland and tell them you are donating for the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System. It’s that easy.

**Consign for a Cause** takes most items for donations: furniture, working appliances, household

goods – they do NOT take clothing or shoes, however. If you have an item and you’re not sure if they will accept it, please call them at (662) 902-0590.



Consign for a Cause is next to South Street Pharmacy.

The consignment shop will clean the items, if necessary, and put them out for sale. For all items that sell, 50 percent of the selling price will be returned to the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System. Any unsold items that do not sell in 60 days are donated by **Consign for a Cause**

to Hope Missions, a religious charity that sends clothing to countries in need as part of its outreach programs. You can find out more about Hope Missions at <http://www.hopemission-trips.com/about-hope/>. Please consider donating your unneeded household items, furniture, and working appliances to **Consign for a Cause** for the Friends of the Library to benefit all libraries of the Bolivar County Library System.

If you have any questions about donating to **Consign for a Cause**, contact the Friends’ President Emily Bell at (662) 719-3094.



**2019 Grape Expectations Benefit Gala**

It is that time!! We are so excited for the 2019 Grape Expectations Gala and hope you are too! This year, the Gala will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the creation of the library system and the subsequent 60 years of library services to Bolivar County.

This event is such a wonderful fundraiser for the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System and, as you know, we sponsor

library programs and other special requests throughout the county. Hopefully, you or a loved one has benefited from such a program.

This year’s Gala is Friday, January 25th. Mark your calendars and save the date! It should be a wonderful evening with food, laughter, and friendship. Entertainment this year will be provided by Renova’s own Granboiz! We cannot be more excited!

In addition to regular programming, our goal this year is to assist with improvements at the Dr. Robert T. Hollingsworth Public Library branch in Shelby. With the help of your sponsorships, donations, attendance, and support, we will make a difference for the libraries here in Bolivar County. See you January 25th!

~Emily Bell

# The LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

## Author Undra Williams Book Signing at Rosedale Public Library



Undra Williams' debuted her new book *The Bubble Gum Click* at a book signing at the Rosedale Public Library on November 17th and it was a huge success!

Everyone enjoyed the program, which started off with storytime with Ms. Williams reading her book. After storytime, Officer Ben, who is retired from the Joliet, Illinois, Police Department, graciously agreed to talk to the kids about bullying and what to do if someone is bullying them.

Ms. Williams noted that *The*

*Bubble Gum Click*, which is designed for children ages 2-8, is about three triplets who love bubble gum. For the event, Ms. Williams even brought the "Bubble Gum Girls," Melshaldra Barnes, Chloe Williams, and Andranita Williams, with her to perform a cute skit based on the book. Also adding to the fun were "Fairies" Dakota Young and Payton Walker.

Thank you to Representative Abe Hudson and his daughter, who stopped in for a few minutes to

support the library. Thank you also to Denise Turner from The Delta News, who covered the event for television.

The program had 24 children and 42 adults in attendance! Wow! I'd like to thank the community for supporting this event, the Rosedale Public Library, and the Bolivar County Library System.

~Martha Lawson  
Rosedale Librarian

For more photos go to our website or Facebook page.



"A book is proof  
that humans are  
capable of  
working magic."  
~Carl Sagan~

## Calendar

December 7th, 14th, 28th, January 4 & 11th—**Friday Preschool Storyhour @ 10 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

December 1st, January 5th—**Saturday Preschool Story-hour @ 11 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland.

December 4th—**Seniors Day Out! @ 10 a.m.**—Open to Public in Cleveland

December 13th—**Lunch With Books** featuring Meredith Coleman McGee @ 12 Noon—Open to the Public in Cleveland

December 13th—**Bolivar Book Club @ 4 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

December 21st at 1 p.m.-  
December 25th—**Christmas Holiday**—All Libraries CLOSED

December 31st—January 1st—**New Year's**—All Libraries CLOSED

NOTE: Admin. and Cleveland Boards do not meet in December.

January 16th—**Cleveland Commission Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

January 16th—**Board of Trustees Meeting @ 1:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

## Lunch With Books Featuring Meredith Coleman McGee



Meredith Coleman McGee will be guest speaker for the Lunch With Books on December 13th, which will feature her newly reprinted book *Odyssey*, a collection of poems, articles, and speeches. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System.

Ms. McGee, who resides in Jackson, is the publisher and acquisitions editor for the small press Meredith Etc., a professional

writer for Typing Solutions Résumés & Etc., and a contributing writer for the *Jackson Advocate*. Her other books include: *Nashida: Visits the Mississippi State Capitol* (2017); *Nashida: Visits the Smith Robertson Museum* (2016); and *Warrior and the America that Created Him* (2013), about her uncle, Civil Rights icon James H. Meredith.

A book signing will follow the program. To preorder a book to

be signed by the author, contact Cotton Row Bookstore by December 7th and your book will be available for purchase at the program.

Bring your lunch and join us for this exciting program at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland on December 13th at 12 Noon. As always, admission is free and soft drinks will be provided.

## Activity Corner at World Book Online

Do you need activities to keep your kids busy during the upcoming Holiday Season? Visit World Book Online at our website and click on “Activity Corner.”

Activity Corner features fun activities for all ages and includes step-by-step instructions, illustrations, and a list of materials needed for each activity. You may browse for activities in specific categories that include age range, type of activity, culture, amount of time needed to complete an activity, cost of materials, and holiday themes.

Need ideas? Each time you visit or refresh the homepage at Activity Corner a different activity is featured, which is a great way to explore projects.

Want to try something new, but you aren't sure how to get started? Go to the “How To...” section for tutorials on basic steps and techniques for completing projects.

You can also share completed projects by creating a free account, or use a previously created “My Research” account, using

the “Share Your Projects” feature, too. Just follow prompts to add steps, keywords, categories, and upload images to your activity.

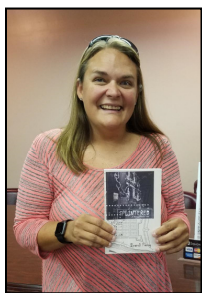
Want to learn more about Activity Corner? You can click on the “Online Tutorial” link at the bottom of the homepage to view video tutorials about Activity Corner.

So go to our website and look for the “World Book Online” section at the bottom center on our homepage to get started today!



## Brandi Perry Book Talk

Mississippi author Brandi Perry was our guest speaker at the November Lunch With Books program. She talked about her books, including her new novel *Splintered: a New Orleans Tale*. She also inspired the audience talking about how she began writing as therapy following emergency brain surgery and breaking into publishing.



Following the program, Ms. Perry graciously signed copies of her new book.



## Did You Know?

You can pick up an application for the **Talking Books Services for blind and physically disabled** individuals at the library? Yes, and once you have completed the application, we can certify it in most cases (see the application for details) and we'll even mail it for you, too. How easy is that?

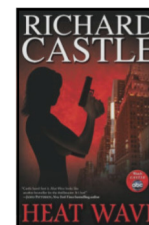
Just ask for an application at the Circulation Desk.

*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?

**Tamara:** *Heat Wave (A Nikki Heat Mystery #1)* by Richard Castle. I just got around to starting this series and I'm glad I did. Just like to TV series, this series is fun! Detective Nikki Heat, with our favorite journalist Jameson Rook in tow, and the gang are investigating the murder of real estate tycoon and the vicious assault of a socialite—during a heat wave, of course. Then things really get exciting... If you love the clever, twisty murder mysteries with witty repartee of the TV series, you'll love the Nikki Heat books, too. (Fiction—Print)



**Tamara:** *Y is for Yesterday (A Kinsey Milhone Novel)* by Sue Grafton. So sad that the author passed away before finishing the “Alphabet” series (as the author's daughters said, “The Alphabet ends with Y.”), because this is another great mystery. Grafton deftly toggles between 1979, when a cheating scandal ended in murder, and the present 1989, when private detective Kinsey Milhone gets involved following the resurfacing of a sex tape from 1979 involving the same group of privileged teens as before. While trying to ferret out who is trying to blackmail one of the former teens, Kinsey realizes she's being stalked—by none other than killer and nemesis Ned Lowe from X. I couldn't put this down! (Fiction—Print, Large Print, eBook & Audiobook)





**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](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/lbcls); you may also access the page from our website.



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

## Some Bolivar County History...

### Blanche Kelso Bruce (Continued) 1849-1898

“When Bruce arrived in the U.S. Senate Chamber on March 5, 1875, precedent called for his state’s senior Senator to escort him to the podium, but Senator Alcorn snubbed the junior Senator because of Bruce’s alliance with Governor Ames. Bruce walked up the aisle alone until Republican Senator Roscoe Conkling of New York offered to escort him. Thereafter Bruce had a powerful ally in Conkling, who coached him in Senate procedures and procured him assignments on influential committees, such as the Education and Labor, Manufactures, and Pensions committees.

Bruce remained quiet during the special session of the Senate, and concerned white Republicans feared he would shirk his responsibility to Mississippi by deferring to the Radical Republican leadership; black political leaders doubted Bruce would stand up for freedmen, who faced terrible violence from white supremacists implementing the Mississippi Plan.<sup>10</sup> Bruce may have been following the time-honored tradition that a freshman remains studious and silent during his first few months in the Senate Chamber. He later noted that success in the Senate required managing diplomacy: “The novelty of my position [compels me] to cultivate and exhibit my honorable associates a courtesy that would inspire reciprocal courtesies.”<sup>11</sup>

Bruce finally broke his silence on March 3, 1876, in defense of southern blacks, petitioning his colleagues to seat Pinckney B. S. Pinchback, a black Senator-elect from Louisiana and a personal friend. But Pinchback’s political opponents questioned his selection by the state legislature due to corruption charges and despite Bruce’s pleas, the Senate narrowly rejected Pinchback’s claim to the seat.<sup>12</sup> Bruce followed this speech with a demand for an inquiry into the violent 1875 Mississippi gubernatorial election. The Senate passed a bill to investigate the political conditions in Mississippi during the previous election; however, the Democratic House did not act on the legislation.<sup>13</sup>“

Excerpt: *History, Art & Archives, U.S. House of Representatives*, “BRUCE, Blanche Kelso,” [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/B/BRUCE,-Blanche-Kelso-\(B000968\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/B/BRUCE,-Blanche-Kelso-(B000968)/) (August 30, 2018)

[Superscript numbers refer to footnotes. To read footnotes, go to the URL listed in the excerpt citation above or see Vertical Files at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library under “Senators—BRUCE, Blanche Kelso”.]

We’re on the web!  
[bolivar.lib.ms.us](http://bolivar.lib.ms.us)

## 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:

- Sharon Williamson, Assistant Director
- Melanie Free, Systems Administrator
- Tamara Blackwell, Reference Svcs / Newsletter Editor
- Bobbie Matheney, Youth Svcs
- Martha Lawson, Rosedale
- Marie Shorter, Shelby
- Evelyn Brown, Merigold / Circ.
- Bethany Brooks, Technical Svcs
- Tina McGee, Benoit/Circulation
- Shelby Lee, Circulation
- Jelisa “Lisa” Hatcher, Circulation
- Kevin Reed, Circulation
- Mike Emerson, Circulation

- Alex Cox, Circulation
- Brandy Collins, Circulation
- Clara, Housekeeping

### Branch Information:

- Benoit (662) 742-3112  
Hours M & 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,  
T & Th 1—5, F 12—5
- Shelby (662) 398-7748  
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5

