

CATTAILS

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

FROM THE
OUACHITA PARISH
PUBLIC LIBRARY

STORY TIME
IS BACK IN
SEPTEMBER!

NEW BOOK CLUBS
TO JOIN
ALL ARE WELCOME





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HOLIDAY CLOSURES

All branches of the
Library will close **Monday,
September 6** for Labor Day.
Regular hours will resume
Tuesday, September 7.

CONGRATULATIONS!

West Monroe Branch's
Chelsea Cooper earned
her Master of Library and
Information Science from
Louisiana State University
this spring.



STAFF PICKS

Leslie Calhoun

MAIN BRANCH CIRCULATION

The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan-Philipp Sendker

This is the story of a young woman, born to an American mother and a Burmese father who grew up in New York, living a life of privilege. She was the apple of her father's eye. Then one day, her father completely disappeared. He had left on what they believed to be a typical business trip and never returned. No note. No call. No letters. All the elements are here. Discovery, betrayal, comprehension, forgiveness and the ultimate expression of love. I loved this book because it reveals how different each culture is, and yet how alike. It made me more aware of what some people have to give up to pursue other possibilities in life. And sometimes that sacrifice becomes regret, but that reconciliation may yet come. This book made me cry at times but it also made me smile. It is very worth the read. **available in print, book-on-CD, on cloudLibrary as an e-book*



Joyce Powell

CARVER-MCDONALD BRANCH MANAGER

The Three Mothers by Anna Malaika Tubbs

The cover of *The Three Mothers* caught my eye. I notice that these three mothers had sons (Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X and James Baldwin) that were involved in the civil rights movement that shaped our nation. I liked this compelling book, because it brings to life three of the most influential yet invisible women in American history. I recommend this book because it depicts the hardships and struggles that these three mothers endured in raising sons that would one day be world-changing men. It also shows the power and strength of how these three mothers endured pain of losing their sons. You will learn how these three women survived and persevered through innumerable obstacles and continued to do so throughout their life. **available in print and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



Hayley Schaff

WEST MONROE BRANCH TEEN SERVICES

A Court of Thorns and Roses by Sarah J. Maas

I have grown up with a love of reading fantasy novels full of magic that allowed me to escape reality for a while. *A Court of Thorns and Roses* gave me a new world that I could dive into full of intrigue, deception, determination and unyielding love. The fairies that I loved as a child "grew up," and I was able to fall in love with their characters and adventures all over again. This book will give readers a new world they can submerge themselves into with new creatures and plots on top of plots to enjoy and decipher. Nothing is as it seems, and readers will fall in love with the characters as they struggle to survive and thrive against their enemy. **available in print, on the cloudLibrary app as both an e-book and e-audiobook, and on the Hoopla app as an e-audiobook*



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Visit gohsep.la.gov for more information on how to best prepare for storms.

✓ Three-day supply of non-perishable food and water

✓ First aid kit

✓ Battery operated radio

✓ Cash

✓ Flashlight

✓ Back-up batteries and phone chargers

✓ Hand sanitizer

☐ Books to read when the power goes out!

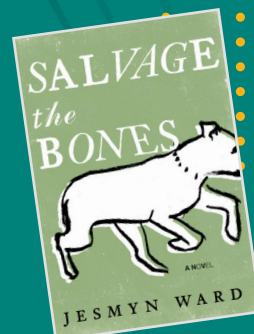


NO JUDGMENTS BY MEG CABOT

When a massive hurricane severs all power and cell service to Little Bridge Island, as well as its connection to the mainland, 25-year-old Bree Beckham isn't worried. She's already escaped one storm - her emotionally abusive ex - so a hurricane seems like it will be a piece of cake. But animal-loving Bree does become alarmed when she realizes how many islanders have been cut off from their beloved pets. Now it's up to her to save as many of Little Bridge's cats and dogs as she can. But to do so, she's going to need help from her boss's sexy nephew, Drew Hartwell, the Mermaid Café's most notorious heartbreaker. **available in print, book-on-CD, on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook, and on the Hoopla app as an e-book*

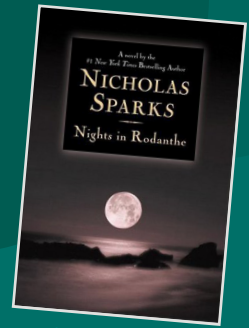
SALVAGE THE BONES BY JESMYN WARD

A hurricane is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening the coastal town of Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, and Esch's father is growing concerned. A hard drinker, largely absent, he doesn't show concern for much else. Esch and her three brothers are stocking food, but there isn't much to save. Lately, Esch can't keep down what food she gets; she's fourteen and pregnant. Over the next 12 days, the unforgettable family at the novel's heart pulls itself up to struggle for another day. A wrenching look at the lonesome, brutal, and restrictive realities of rural poverty, *Salvage the Bones* is muscled with poetry, revelatory, and real. **available in print, large print, and on cloudLibrary as an e-book*



NIGHTS IN RODANTHE BY NICHOLAS SPARKS

At 45, Adrienne must rethink her entire life when her husband abandons her for a younger woman. Reeling with heartache and in search of a respite, she flees to the small coastal town of Rodanthe, North Carolina to tend to a friend's inn for the weekend. But when a major storm starts moving in, it appears that Adrienne's perfect getaway will be ruined - until a guest named Paul Flanner arrives. Paul has just sold his medical practice and come to Rodanthe to escape his own shattered past. Now, with the storm closing in, two wounded people will turn to each other for comfort and in one weekend set in motion feelings that will resonate throughout the rest of their lives. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook, and on the Hoopla app as an e-audiobook. The movie adaptation is available in DVD, and the Spanish translation is also available in print.*



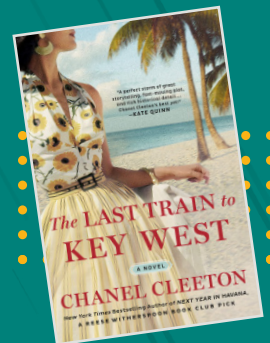
CAMINO WINDS BY JOHN GRISHAM

Hurricane Leo veers from its predicted course and heads straight for Camino Island. When Florida's governor orders a mandatory evacuation, Bruce decides to stay and ride out the storm. The hurricane is devastating: homes and condos are leveled, hotels and storefronts ruined, streets flooded, and a dozen people lose their lives. One of the apparent victims is Nelson Kerr, a friend of Bruce's and an author of thrillers. But the nature of Nelson's injuries suggests that the storm wasn't the cause of his death: He has suffered several suspicious blows to the head. Who would want Nelson dead? **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



THE LAST TRAIN TO KEY WEST BY CHANEL CLEETON

In 1935, three women are forever changed when one of the most powerful hurricanes in history barrels toward the Florida Keys. Everyone journeys to Key West searching for something. For the tourists traveling on Henry Flagler's legendary Overseas Railroad, Labor Day weekend is an opportunity to forget the economic depression gripping the nation. But one person's paradise can be another's prison. Over the course of the holiday weekend, the women's paths cross unexpectedly, and the danger swirling around them is matched only by the terrifying force of the deadly storm threatening the Keys. **available in print, large print, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



HURRICANE SEASON BY LAUREN K. DENTON

While Ty manages his herd of dairy cows, his wife Betsy busies herself with the farm's day-to-day operations and tries to forget her dream of motherhood. But when her free-spirited sister, Jenna, drops off her two young daughters for "just two weeks," Betsy's carefully constructed wall of self-protection begins to crumble. Betsy and Ty learn to navigate the new additions in their world—and revel in the laughter that now fills their home. But when Hurricane Ingrid aims a steady eye at the Alabama coast, Jenna must make a decision that will change her family's future, even as Betsy and Ty try to protect their beloved farm and their hearts. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook, and on the Hoopla app as an e-book*



THE SUMMER GUESTS BY MARY ALICE MONROE

When a hurricane threatens the coasts of Florida and South Carolina, an eclectic group of evacuees flees for the farm of their friends Grace and Charles Phillips in North Carolina: the Phillips's daughter Moira and her rescue dogs, famed equestrian Javier Angel de la Cruz, makeup artist Hannah McLain, horse breeder Gerda Klug and her daughter Elise, and island resident Cara Rutledge. Strangers to all but the Phillips, they must ride out the storm together. Relationships are put to the test as the evacuees are forced to confront the unresolved issues they have with themselves and with each other. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as both an e-book and e-audiobook*



BACK TO SCHOOL

Your child's Library card gives your family access to free books, e-books and online resources like Homework Louisiana.

Homework Louisiana is a free tutoring resource. Students from kindergarten through college can receive real, live help from a certified tutor in more than 60 subjects. Plus, Homework Louisiana provides free ACT, ASVAB, AP and GED prep. You can even submit essays, resumes and more for grammar and writing feedback. Tutors are available from 2 p.m. - midnight daily. Get started at oplib.org/homeworklouisiana.



Did you know that your child can get his or her very own Library card?

If you are the child's parent or legal guardian, live in Ouachita Parish and already have a Ouachita Parish Public Library card in good standing, you can register your child at any branch, at any time. All you have to do is ask to sign your child up for a Library card at the front desk.

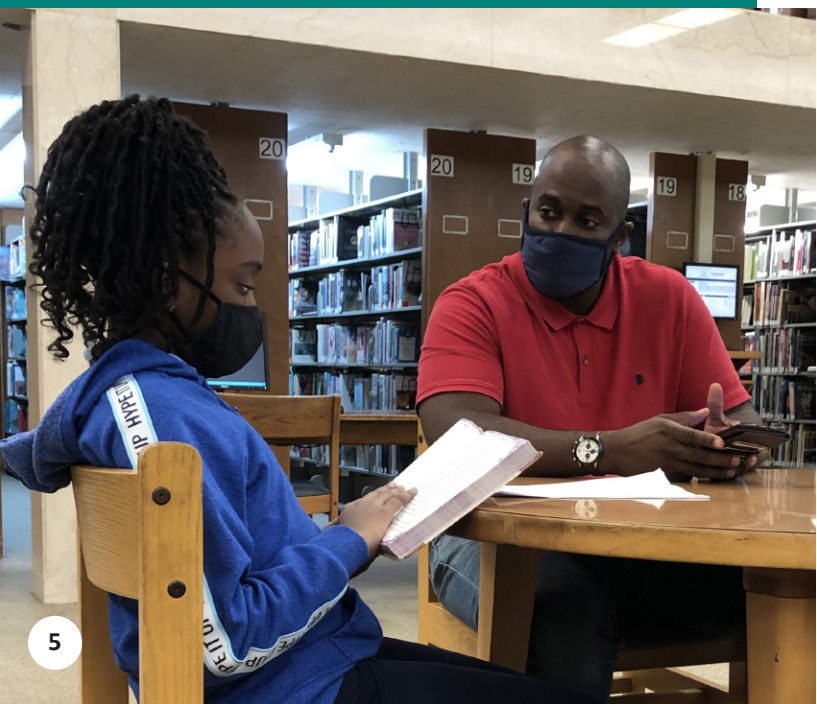
If you do not have a Library card, you can register yourself and your child by bringing **one document for proof of identity** and **one document for proof of address**. We accept the following documents:

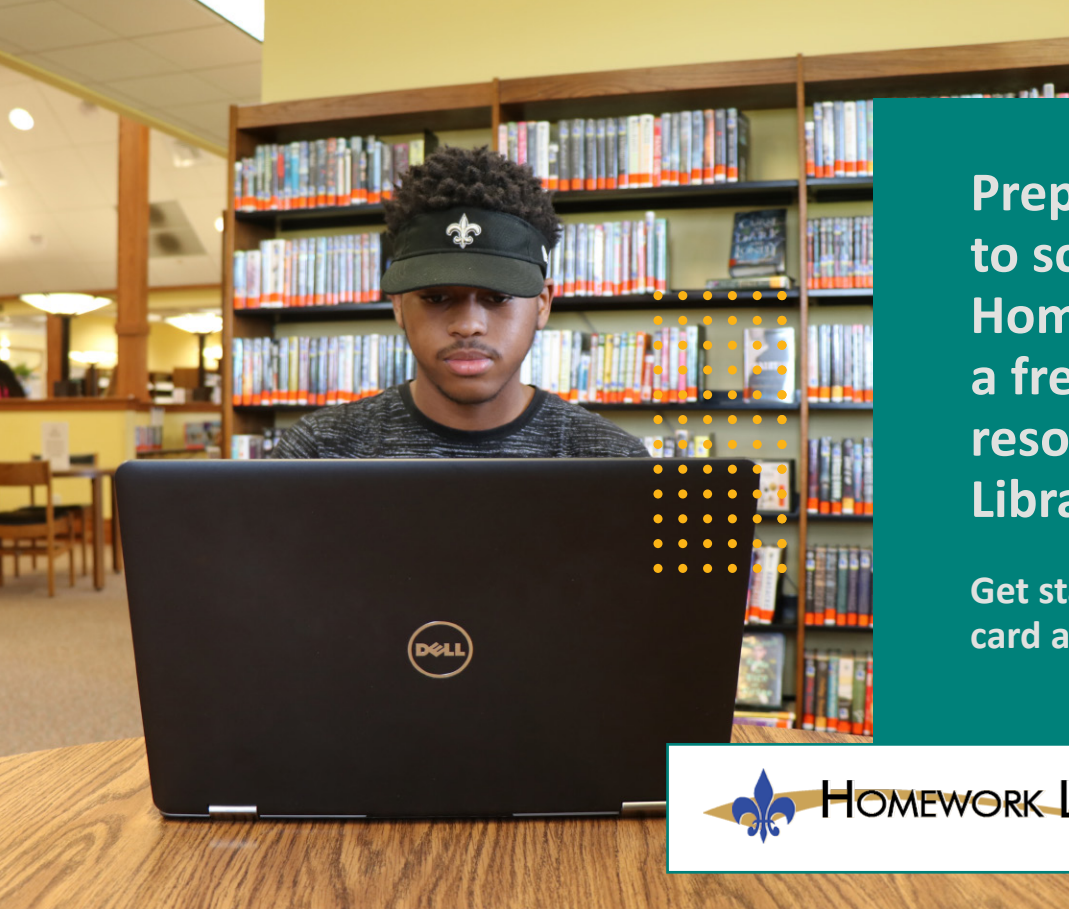
PROOF OF IDENTITY

- Current driver's license (from any state),
- Current state-issued ID (from any state),
- Current military ID, OR
- Current passport (from any country)

PROOF OF ADDRESS

- Current, postmarked piece of mail addressed to yourself,
- Printed checkbook with both name and current address,
- Auto registration with name and current address,
- Voter registration with name and current address,
- Report card with name and current address, OR
- Current lease agreement





Prepare to go back to school with Homework Louisiana, a free tutoring resource with your Library card.

Get started with your Library card at homeworkla.org.



HOMWORK LOUISIANA

Powered by tutor.com

Free tutors are available in the following subjects:

Math: Elementary Math, Middle School Math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics

Science: Elementary Science, Middle Grades Science, Basic Science, Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy, Physiology

English and Language Arts: Spelling, Vocabulary, Grammar, Literature

Writing: Book Reports, Letters, Short Stories, Essays, College/Scholarship Essays

Reading: Elementary Reading, Middle School Reading, High School Reading, College Reading

Social Studies: Elementary Social Studies, Middle School Social Studies, U.S. History, European History, World History, Civics and Government, Geography

World Languages: Spanish, French, German, Italian

Advanced Placement (AP): AP English Literature, AP English Composition, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics B, AP Physics C, AP Comparative Government and Politics, AP European History, AP Human Geography, AP US History, AP World History

ACT Test Prep: Grammar, Composition, Reading, Basic Math, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Earth/Space Science, Biology, Chemistry

PSAT Test Prep: Reading, Writing, Basic Math, Algebra, Geometry, Precalculus

SAT Test Prep: Reading, Writing, Basic Math, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics and Probability, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, U.S. History, World History

Study Skills Coaching: Getting Organized, Taking Notes, Setting Goals, Studying Effectively, Conducting Research, Time Management

Computer Literacy: Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, Windows

GED/HiSET Test Prep

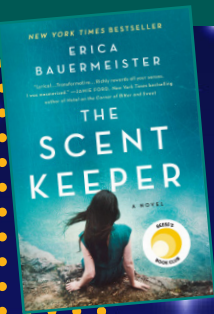
Job Help

Citizenship Test Prep

Parent Coaching for Student Success

MAGICAL SUMMER NIGHTS

Stay up late reading
these fantasy and
sci-fi page-turners.



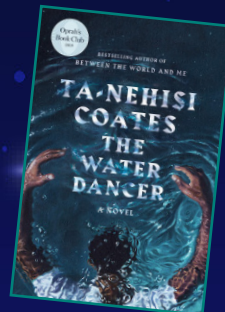
THE SCENT KEEPER BY ERICA BAUERMEISTER

Emmeline lives an enchanted childhood on a remote island with her father, who teaches her about the natural world through her senses. What he won't explain are the mysterious scents stored in the drawers that line the walls of their cabin, or the origin of the machine that creates them. As Emmeline grows, however, so too does her curiosity, until one day the unforeseen happens, and Emmeline is vaulted out into the real world—a place of love, betrayal, ambition, and revenge. To understand her past, Emmeline must unlock the clues to her identity, a quest that challenges the limits of her heart and imagination. **available in print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



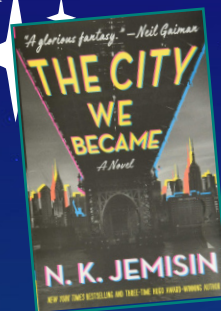
THE ECHO WIFE BY SARAH GAILEY

Martine is a genetically cloned replica made from Evelyn Caldwell's award-winning research. She's patient and gentle and obedient. She's everything Evelyn swore she'd never be. And she's having an affair with Evelyn's husband. Now, the cheating husband is dead, and both Caldwell wives have a mess to clean up. Good thing Evelyn Caldwell is used to getting her hands dirty. **available in print, large print, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



THE WATER DANCER BY TA-NEHISI COATES

Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her — but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. This brush with death births an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he's ever known. So begins an unexpected journey that takes Hiram from the corrupt grandeur of Virginia's proud plantations to desperate guerrilla cells in the wilderness. Even as he's enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved, Hiram's resolve to rescue the family he left behind endures. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



THE CITY WE BECAME BY N.K. JEMISIN

Five New Yorkers must come together in order to defend their city. Every city has a soul. Some are as ancient as myths, and others are as new and destructive as children. New York City? She's got five. But every city also has a dark side. A roiling, ancient evil stirs beneath the earth, threatening to destroy the city and her five protectors unless they can come together and stop it once and for all. **available in print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*

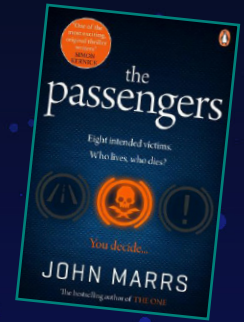
THE HOUSE IN THE CERULEAN SEA BY T.J. KLUNE

Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages. When Linus is unexpectedly summoned by Extremely Upper Management he's given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island Orphanage, where six dangerous children reside. Linus must set aside his fears and determine whether or not they're likely to bring about the end of days. An enchanting story, this book is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours. **available in print, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



THE PASSENGERS BY JOHN MARRS

Eight self-drive cars set on a collision course. Who lives, who dies? You decide. When someone hacks into the systems of eight self-drive cars, their passengers are set on a fatal collision course. The passengers are: a TV star, a pregnant young woman, a disabled war hero, an abused wife fleeing her husband, an illegal immigrant, a husband and wife - and parents of two - who are travelling in separate vehicles and a suicidal man. Now the public have to judge who should survive but are the passengers all that they first seem? **available in print, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



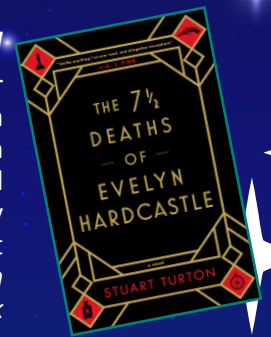
BLACK SUN BY REBECCA ROANHORSE

In the holy city of Tova, the winter solstice is usually a time for celebration and renewal, but this year it coincides with a solar eclipse, a rare celestial event proscribed by the Sun Priest as an unbalancing of the world. Meanwhile, a ship launches from a distant city bound for Tova and set to arrive on the solstice. The captain of the ship, Xiala, is a disgraced Teek whose song can calm the waters around her as easily as it can warp a man's mind. Her ship carries one passenger. Described as harmless, the passenger, Serapio, is a young man, blind, scarred, and cloaked in destiny. As Xiala well knows, when a man is described as harmless, he usually ends up being a villain. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



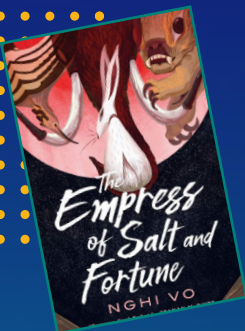
THE 7 1/2 DEATHS OF EVELYN HARCADLE BY STUART TURTON

Aiden Bishop knows the rules. Evelyn Harcadle will die every day until he can identify her killer and break the cycle. But every time the day begins again, Aiden wakes up in the body of a different guest at Blackheath Manor. And some of his hosts are more helpful than others. With a locked room mystery that Agatha Christie would envy, Stuart Turton unfurls a breakneck novel of intrigue and suspense. *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Harcadle* is a breathlessly addictive mystery that follows one man's race against time to find a killer, with an astonishing time-turning twist that means nothing and no one are quite what they seem. **available in print, large print, and on both the cloudLibrary and Hoopla apps as an e-book and e-audiobook*



THE EMPRESS OF SALT AND FORTUNE BY NGHI VO

A young royal from the far north is sent south for a political marriage in an empire reminiscent of imperial China. Her brothers are dead, her armies and their war mammoths long defeated and caged behind their borders. Alone and sometimes reviled, she must choose her allies carefully. Rabbit, a handmaiden, sold by her parents to the palace for the lack of five baskets of dye, befriends the emperor's lonely new wife and gets more than she bargained for. This book follows the rise of the empress In-yo, who has few resources and fewer friends. She's a northern daughter in a mage-made summer exile, but she will bend history to her will and bring down her enemies, piece by piece. **available in print, on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook, and on the Hoopla app as an e-audiobook*



THE BIG DOOR PRIZE BY M.O. WALSH

What would you do if you knew your life's potential? That's the question facing the residents of Deerfield, Louisiana, when the DNAMIX machine appears in their local grocery store. It's nothing to look at, really—it resembles a plain photo booth. But its promise is amazing: With just a quick swab of your cheek and two dollars, the device claims to use the science of DNA to tell you your life's potential. With enough credibility to make the townspeople curious, soon the former teachers, nurses, and shopkeepers of Deerfield are abruptly changing course to pursue their destinies as magicians, cowboys, and athletes. **available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app as an e-book and e-audiobook*



BOOK SALE!

The Friends of the Library Book Sale is Back!



August 27-28 and
September 24-25
from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

West Ouachita Branch
188 Hwy. 546 in West Monroe

Hardbacks: 50 cents
Paperbacks: 25 cents
Children's books: 10 cents

All proceeds benefit the
Friends of the Library, who
support Library programming.



BOOK CLUBS

Book clubs
are meeting
in person
beginning in
September!



MOCHA MONDAY BOOK CLUB > MAIN BRANCH

The Mocha Monday Book Club reads
books by authors of color or featuring
people of color.

**THESE GHOSTS
ARE FAMILY**
BY MAISY CARD

AUG 2
at 5pm

ZOOM
For link email:
jgeever@oplib.org

**IF I HAD YOUR
FACE**
FRANCES CHA

SEPT 13
at 5:30pm

In Person:
MAIN BRANCH



ONLINE BOOK CLUB

Join the quarterly Online Book Club on
the Library's Facebook page to discuss
great books with other readers. Books
are available on the Hoopla app in both
e-book and e-audiobook format.

CARRYING ALBERT HOME
BY HOMER HICKAM

**AUGUST &
SEPTEMBER**



JUST READ BOOK CLUB > CPL. J.R. SEARCY MEMORIAL BRANCH

DISCUSS CLASSICS AND
NEW TITLES WITH OTHER
READERS IN THE AREA.

SEPTEMBER 23
at 2pm



MYSTERY AND SUSPENSE BOOK CLUB > STERLINGTON MEMORIAL BRANCH

THE PLOT
JEAN HANFF KORELITZ

SEPTEMBER 27
at 5:30pm



RAINBOW READS BOOK CLUB > MAIN BRANCH

The Rainbow Reads Book Club is for
members of the LGBT community and
their allies.

*THIS TOWN
SLEEPS*
BY DENNIS STAPLES

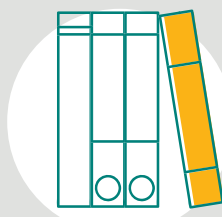
AUG 30
at 5pm

ZOOM
For link email:
lcunningham@oplib.org

SING YOU HOME
BY JODI PICOULT

SEPT 27
at 5:30pm

In Person:
MAIN BRANCH



LOST IN THE STACKS BOOK CLUB > MAIN BRANCH

If you love literary fiction, you'll love the
Lost in the Stacks Book Club.

*THE GIRL WITH
THE LOUDING
VOICE*
BY ABI DARE

AUG 10
at 5pm

ZOOM
For link email:
bpearce@oplib.org

*CONFESSIONS
ON THE 7:45*
LISA UNGER

SEPT 14
at 6pm

In Person:
MAIN BRANCH



FANTASY AND SCI-FI BOOK CLUB > STERLINGTON MEMORIAL BRANCH

THE BURNING GOD
BY R.F. KUANG

SEPTEMBER 7
at 6:30pm



THURSDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB > WEST OUACHITA BRANCH

PEACE LIKE A RIVER
BY LEIF ENGER

SEPTEMBER 16
at 10:30am



STORY TIME IS BACK IN SEPTEMBER!

Now is the
perfect time
to take your
child to
story time.

What happens at story time?

At story time, children will sing songs, make crafts, play games and of course, read stories. Story time is a fun way for children all ages to learn literacy, motor and social skills. Story time is led by children's librarians, who read age-appropriate books to patrons. They will have conversations about the books with the children, and will lead the children in songs, crafts, poems, games and movements that relate back to what they just read.

Do I have to register in advance?

Nope. Just show up to the story time that would best suit your child's age group. Story times happen weekly, so if you miss one, you can come to the story time scheduled for the following week.

I'm worried my child will be too loud or fidgety.

That's ok! Sometimes learning can be noisy. At story time, we encourage children to ask questions, sing, dance and play. All of these activities are integral to creating a learning environment. Plus, most branches host story time in a meeting room away from the main part of the building, so we don't bother other patrons.

WHEN IS STORY TIME?

Story time is the same time every week, beginning in September.



MAIN BRANCH

0-24 months.....Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m.
18-36 months.....Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
3-5 years.....Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Tuesdays at 4 p.m.
9-12 years.....Thursdays at 4 p.m.

ANNA MEYER BRANCH

0-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

CARVER-MCDONALD BRANCH

0-5 years.....Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.
6-12 years.....Mondays at 3:45 p.m.

LOUISE WILLIAMS BRANCH

0-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
6-12 years.....Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

OLLIE BURNS BRANCH

0-24 months.....Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.
3-5 years.....Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

OUACHITA VALLEY BRANCH

0-36 months.....Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.
3-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

SEARCY BRANCH

0-5 years.....Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Family (0-12 years)...Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

STERLINGTON BRANCH

0-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Thursdays at 4 p.m.

WEST MONROE BRANCH

0-24 months.....Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
3-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 years.....Thursdays at 4 p.m.

WEST OUACHITA BRANCH

0-18 months.....Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
18-36 months.....Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
3-5 years.....Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m.
Family (0-12 years)...Wednesdays at 3:45 p.m.



from the ARCHIVES

The Library's Genealogy and Special Collections Department helps patrons research local and family history. Learn more about how to explore your own research at oplib.org/family-local-history.

ERNEST LONG NEVILLE

Much of the early excellence found in Monroe City Schools can be credited to a man born January 17, 1876 in Damascus, North Carolina. Ernest Long Neville, the second of 15 children, was born to William and Sarah Neville, a family who valued education. Neville's grandparents donated land for the use of a university in North Carolina and his parents sent all their children to the neighborhood school. Neville's leadership qualities were evident at an early age as he was selected to carry the lunch basket to school each day so that he and each of his siblings would get their share.

When Neville finished high school, he borrowed money to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduating in 1900, he returned home to teach. He also led Sunday school classes. Anxious to repay his debt, he left North Carolina in 1901 for Louisiana, where he took a better paying position as a Latin teacher and assistant principal at Monroe City High School. It was there Neville met Allie Davis who was also a teacher. The couple married June 4, 1904. They traveled back to North Carolina for their honeymoon so that Allie could meet Neville's family and then the happy couple returned to Monroe to make their home. In 1910, Neville became principal of Monroe City High School. As the system expanded to include more elementary schools, Neville became superintendent of schools.

Monroe City High School offered two diplomas for their graduates. One was the state approved Louisiana Diploma, and the other was the Monroe City High School Diploma showing advanced academic coursework. With his high academic standards, Neville had the approval of the people of Monroe, especially teachers. In the 1922 *Squeedunk* yearbook, Julia Wossman wrote of the academic excellence stressed by Neville. Courses offered included 4 years of mathematics and English, and 3 years of French and Latin. Wossman went on to become the first principal of Barkdull Faulk School, named for Leonidas Barkdull Faulk, a well-known Monroe surgeon who died while serving in the Medical Corps during World War I. Later, Wossman High School was named for Julia Wossman. In 1931, when a new city school was built, it was named Neville High School in honor of Ernest Neville. Neville High School also offered a separate "Neville Diploma" showing completion of advanced coursework. While Ernest Neville had high academic standards, he also was a fair and even-tempered mentor to his students. The book, *Who's Who in the Twin Cities* published in 1931 by H. H. Brinsmade, states that Neville has never been known to lose his temper.

Ernest Neville retired as superintendent in the fall of 1948. Monroe Mayor George Breece issued a proclamation in honor of Ernest Neville and his long and faithful service. December 20, 1948 was set aside and known as E.L. Neville Day for his contribution to education and the development of the Monroe School System. The public was invited to attend E.L. Neville Day where a program was held at 8:00 in the evening at Neville High School. The closing event of the program was a presentation to Neville by alumni, associates, and Monroe friends and admirers of a "fine new Dodge custom sedan" according to the *Monroe Morning World* December 19, 1948.



Ernest and Allie Neville celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 1, 1954. After his retirement, Neville enjoyed the construction and navigation of boats on the Ouachita River. He was responsible for the free Lyceum courses given in the City School auditorium, and he was active in the Masons, the Rotary Club and the Red Cross. He was a board member for the Louisiana Training Institute and he enjoyed repairing clocks in his free time with his favorite being the old-timey kind. He died March 12, 1957. His death was announced on the front page of the Monroe News Star that day and Neville High School was closed the next day, March 13, 1957. All sports events for Neville High School were cancelled March 12 and 13 in his honor.

Sources:

- Who's Who in the Twin Cities published by H. H. Brinsmade 1931
- The Hour Glass August 15, 1933 article "Monroe's Beloved Educator" (LDL)
- Monroe News Star Oct. 26, 1932 article "Monroe's School System Not Old"
- Monroe Morning World Dec. 19, 1948 proclamation
- Monroe Morning World June 25, 1966 2 Diplomas at Neville High School
- Monroe News Star World March 12, 1957 obit
- Ouachita Parish Public Library Historic Documents, Kate Smith Diplomas





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