

# CATTAILS

APRIL/MAY 2026

FROM THE OUACHITA PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY

## LOVE THE BOOT WEEK!

HELP KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL AND VOLUNTEER DURING LOVE THE BOOT WEEK!

## JOIN A BOOK CLUB!

CONNECT WITH YOUR FELLOW BOOK LOVERS AND JOIN A BOOK CLUB AT THE LIBRARY!



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## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

All Library branches close at 5 p.m. the day before a holiday closure.

**EASTER** - Fri., Apr. 3rd - Sat., Apr. 4th  
**MEMORIAL DAY** - Mon., May 25th



## FIND BILLIE THE BOOKWORM!

Our Bookworm, Billie, is hidden six times throughout these pages. See if you can find all six!

# CONGRATS TEDDRICK!



Congratulations to Main Branch Reference employee, Teddrick Dugano, on being named Literacy Advocate of the Year by the Jones Center of Arts and Academic Excellence! We're proud of his dedication to promoting literacy in our community.

# JOIN US FOR STORY TIMES

### MAIN

0-24 mo.... Tues. | 9:45 a.m.  
 18-36 mo... Thurs. | 10:30 a.m.  
 3-5 yrs..... Tues. | 10:30 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.  
 Family..... Second Sat. of each month | 10:30 a.m.

### ANNA MEYER

0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10:30 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 4 p.m.

### CARVER-MCDONALD

0-5 yrs..... Mondays | 4 p.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

### LOUISE WILLIAMS

0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

### OLLIE BURNS

0-5 yrs..... Tues. | 10 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

### OUACHITA VALLEY

0-36 mo.... Tues. | 10:30 a.m.  
 3-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10:30 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Thurs. | 4 p.m.

### SEARCY MEMORIAL

0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 3:45 p.m.

### STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Thurs. | 4 p.m.  
 (STEM Storytime)

### WEST MONROE

0-24 mo.... Tues. | 10 a.m.  
 3-5 yrs..... Tues. | 3:45 p.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 10:45 a.m.

### WEST OUACHITA

18-36 mo.. Tues. | 10:30 a.m.  
 3-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10:45 a.m.  
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 3:45 p.m.



# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

SCAN TO BECOME  
A FRIEND OF THE  
LIBRARY!



**Want to lend a hand and support your library while our West Ouachita branch undergoes repairs? Become a member of our Friends of the Library!**

The Friends of the Ouachita Parish Library is a nonprofit organization that fundraises to support the activities and programs of the library.

All proceeds from the book sale and other fundraisers are used to provide endowments for our Summer Reading Challenge and Winter Reading Challenge prize incentives, and special library programming for all ages that we offer to the public at each of our 10 branches!

For more information on how to become a member, you can scan the QR code above. To make direct donations to the Friends, contact [agreer@oplib.org](mailto:agreer@oplib.org).



# A MOTHER'S LOVE & THE LIBRARY

**SHEILA KAY DOWNHOUR**  
*Executive Director, Ouachita Green*



The library has always been a place of adventure, learning, and inspiration for me. Some of my earliest and happiest memories begin between the shelves of books.

Both of my parents were avid readers, and they passed that love on to me in different ways. My working mama read to relax at the end of a long day. My daddy was a self-taught sculptor, so he read to learn. Books were simply part of our everyday life. During the summers, I could walk to our local library, and I made that trip several times a week. I remember proudly participating in the summer reading programs and setting big goals for myself.

One summer, at about eight years old, I walked into the library, looked around at all those shelves, and wondered if I could read every single book in the building. Of course, that wasn't possible — but that didn't stop me from trying! That summer I read just about everything I could get my hands on. The library became my gateway to imagination, knowledge, and possibility.

My love for the library didn't end with childhood — it simply grew.

All three of my children enjoy reading, and when they were in school, I would find out what book they were assigned and check out my own copy so we could read it together and talk about it. Those shared stories became some of our sweetest memories. Now, as a grandparent, it fills my heart with joy to see some of my grandchildren complete the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. There is nothing better than a quiet house — and then discovering it's quiet because they are curled up reading.

As a parent and grandparent, there have been many moments when I needed guidance, encouragement, or simply more information. Off to the library I would go. The librarians have always been eager to help, offering suggestions and connecting me with exactly what I needed. I visited so often that they learned the genres I loved and introduced me to authors I may never have discovered on my own. Not many people can afford a personal library at home, so I consider the Ouachita Parish Public Library my own unlimited library.

After 40 years in radio, where I had the privilege of sharing information about the library's wonderful programs, I began a new chapter as Director of Ouachita Green. Once again, the library has been a vital resource. I regularly check out books on environmental education, recycling, litter abatement, and community beautification to help guide our work. The library even offers cleanup supplies so families and neighborhoods can organize their own community cleanups — what a perfect example of learning meeting action!

It's been especially meaningful to now partner with the library through Ouachita Green. I once participated in after-school

and summer programs as a child — and now I get to collaborate with homeschool groups, after-school programs, and summer initiatives to help teach the next generation about caring for the environment. The library meeting rooms have also provided a wonderful space for our Love Where You Live Internship program to gather and grow.

While I still treasure the feel of a book in my hands, I also appreciate being able to listen to eBooks while traveling, checking out CDs, streaming videos, or accessing online resources. The library truly meets us wherever we are.

Whether I want to meet a new friend in a book, learn something new, relax after a busy day, or go on an adventure, the Ouachita Parish Public Library welcomes me. It is more than a building filled with books — it is a gift to my family and to our entire community.

The library nurtures curiosity, encourages lifelong learning, and reminds us that knowledge is for everyone. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

“ My love for the library didn't end with childhood — it simply grew. ”



# LOVE THE BOOT week

KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL

## IS APRIL 18-26!

Be a part of Keep Louisiana Beautiful's Love the Boot Week, Louisiana's largest litter removal and beautification event. This year, we are cleaning up in honor of America's 250th birthday! You can help by registering an event, volunteering, picking up 250 pieces of litter, or spreading the word. The first 800 groups to register get a supply box with volunteer t-shirts, gloves, and trash bags. Learn more and register at [KeepLouisianaBeautiful.org](http://KeepLouisianaBeautiful.org).

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOVE THE BOOT WEEK!





# KIDS PROGRAMS

-  **EVENTS**
-  **MOVIES**
-  **ARTS & CRAFTS**
-  **IN THE GARDEN**
-  **STEM ACTIVITIES**
-  **BOOKS & STORIES**
-  **GAMES**
-  **VIDEO GAMES**


## ANNA MEYER


 **CHILDREN'S CINEMA**  
**Sat., Apr. 11 | 12-2 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Join us at the library for Children's Cinema Day, a fun event for the whole family featuring *The Bad Guys 2* (PG) on the big screen!

 **CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS: "OWL WINDSOCKS"**  
**Fri., Apr. 17 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12**  
 April winds are on the way, so come craft, create, and watch your windsock dance in the spring air!


 **TOTALLY TWEENS: RESIST ART SKETCHES**  
**Fri., Apr. 24 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Get creative at the library and design your own resist sketch art masterpiece. Go abstract, whimsical, silly, or totally eclectic and make it uniquely yours.


 **CHILDREN'S CINEMA**  
**Sat., May 9 | 12-2 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Join us at the library for Children's Cinema Day featuring *A Minecraft Movie* (PG), fun for the whole family. Team up with a friend, grab some complimentary snacks, and settle in for an epic big screen adventure.


 **FAMILY GAME NIGHT**  
**Mon., May 11 | 3:30-5 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Family Night at the library is your place for fun, games, and plenty of laughter. Bring a friend and your competitive streak for an evening of friendly challenges.

 **CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS: SAND ART**  
**Fri., May 29 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | AGES 6-12**  
 Celebrate the end of the school year at the library with colorful sand art for kids. Create your own beachscape masterpiece and bring a little summer fun indoors!

## CARVER-MCDONALD


 **BOOK TALK & SIGNING**  
**Tues., Apr. 14 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12**  
 Book Talk & Signing with author Carmen Echols with her new books, *Katie Goes Kayaking* and *Rosie Gets a Ribbon*.

 **LOUISIANA PURCHASE GARDENS AND ZOO**  
**Tues., Apr. 28 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12**  
 Jody Nobles, Educational Director at Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo, brings and talks about the habitat of diverse species.


 **LOUISIANA PURCHASE GARDENS AND ZOO**  
**Tues., May 12 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12**  
 Jody Nobles, Educational Director at Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo, brings and talks about the habitat of diverse species.


## LOUISE WILLIAMS

 **PAINTING WITH A POP**  
**Sat., May 16 | 10-11 a.m. | FAMILY**  
 Create a fun spring painting on canvas.

 **CREATE-URE STEM CHALLENGE**  
**Mon., May 18 | 10-11 a.m. | FAMILY**  
 Design and create your own creature with clay.


## MAIN

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., Apr. 2 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Come to the library to decorate an egg for Easter! Supplies will be provided.


 **WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAY: GAME TIME!**  
**Wed., Apr. 8 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Join us for special games and prizes! Snacks included.





## MAIN


 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., Apr. 9 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Learn make your own DIY botanical print! Supplies are provided.

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., Apr. 16 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Join us to play Minecraft Survival mode! Bring your own device or play split-screen with a Nintendo Switch provided by the library! Max of 4 players on Switch and 8 players total in one game.


 **MAKE-IT-MONDAY: EARTH DAY ART**  
**Mon., Apr. 20 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Create an Earth Day Craft using coffee filters and washable markers.

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., Apr. 23 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Come play in some dirt at the library! In celebration of Earth Day, we will be planting some seeds for you to take home! Supplies will be provided.


 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., Apr. 30 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Game Night! Test your skills with an afternoon of board games, card games, or other group activities!


 **WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAY: DRINKING STRAW BRACELET**  
**Wed., May 6 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Make a cute, colorful and unique drinking straw bracelet for Mother's Day!

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., May 7 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Create your own friendship bracelets! Supplies will be provided.

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., May 14 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Minecraft Free Play - Join us at the library for an hour of Minecraft Survival mode! Bring your own device or play split-screen with a Nintendo Switch provided by the library! Max of 4 players on Switch and 8 players total in one game.

 **MAKE-IT-MONDAY: GAME TIME!**  
**Mon., May 18 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY**  
 Join us for special games and prizes! Snacks included.

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., May 21 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Join us as we decorate rocks with paint! Supplies will be provided.

 **ALL THINGS TWEEN**  
**Thurs., May 28 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 10-12**  
 Game Night! Test your skills with an afternoon of board games, card games, or other group activities!

# SPRING COMMUNITY KICKOFF!


## OLLIE BURNS

Sat., Apr. 24th  
From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.


Join us as we turn over a new leaf to kick off our annual community garden!

### OLLIE BURNS

#### EASTER EGG HUNT


 Sat., Apr. 11 | 10-11 a.m. | FAMILY  
Come hop around the library and find some Easter surprises! We will have over 100 eggs hidden for you, your friends, and family!

#### SOMEONE SPECIAL MIRRORS

 Sat., May 9 | 2-3 p.m. | FAMILY  
Charm heart-shaped mirrors as a heartfelt gift for someone special in your life — whether it's a mom, grandma, auntie, guardian, or loved one.

### OUACHITA VALLEY

#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., Apr. 7 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Let's make cute spring bunnies paintings!

#### POPCORN AND A MOVIE

 Sat., Apr. 11 | 2-3:30 p.m. | FAMILY  
Join us for a movie screening of Disney's *Elio* (PG).


#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., Apr. 14 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Come make a coffee filter dragonfly craft.


#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., Apr. 21 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Make a yarn rainbow craft.


#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., Apr. 28 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Decorate your very own spring flower pot!

#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., May 5 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Make a special craft to give to mom for Mother's Day!

#### POPCORN AND A MOVIE

 Sat., May 9 | 2-3:30 p.m. | FAMILY  
Join us for a movie screening of the 2025 version of *How To Train Your Dragon* (PG).

#### CRAFTY TUESDAY

 Tues., May 12 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Create some cool fingerprint bug art!

#### CRAFTY TUESDAY


 Tues., May 19 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
DIY: Colorful Sock Caterpillars!

#### CRAFTY TUESDAY


 Tues., May 26 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
DIY: Butterfly Finger Puppet!

### SEARCY MEMORIAL


#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

 Tues., Apr. 7 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Come make a spring cup of flowers.


#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

 Tues., Apr. 14 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
We will be making colorful spring flower dolls.


#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

 Tues., Apr. 21 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 2-5  
Make Earth Day crowns.

#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

 Tues., Apr. 28 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 2-5  
Decorate cute and colorful ladybugs!

#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY


 Tues., May 5 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Make a Mother's Day craft for your special person.

#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY


 Tues., May 12 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Make a crown of flowers.

### SEARCY MEMORIAL

#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY


 Tues., May 19 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | AGES 2-5  
Roar! Make a 3-D dinosaur craft.

#### CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

 Tues., May 26 | 3:45-4:30 p.m. | FAMILY  
Create your own pretty peacock bird craft.

### STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

#### LEGO CLUB

 Mon., Apr. 6 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Build a cool Lego set, complete a fun Lego challenge card, or free build with Legos.


#### MAKING PAPER WITH MISS JENNI

 Fri., Apr. 10 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Make paper from scratch with Miss Jenni and learn about her new job with Graphic Packaging.

#### YOGA STORYTIME

 Mon., Apr. 20 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Storytime with fun yoga games and creative activities that encourage mindfulness. Come read and move with us!

#### CANNING JAR RING SUN CATCHER

 Fri., Apr. 24 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Create a suncatcher out of a canning jar ring and art supplies.


#### LEGO CLUB: STAR WARS BUILDING CHALLENGE

 Mon., MAY 4 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
"Join us, you must, on Star Wars Day. Help save the universe with Legos you will. Mmmmm." -Yoda


#### TULIP WATERCOLOR PAINTING

 Fri., May 8 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Use a cardboard tube and watercolor paints to create an easy and beautiful painting of spring tulips.

#### STAR WARS PARTY

 Fri., May 8 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
It's Star Wars Week at Sterlington! Let's end the week with a fun celebration. Dress up in your best Star Wars costume and join us for a fun party with Star Wars-themed snack and games.

#### YOGA STORYTIME

 Mon., May 18 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Storytime with fun yoga games and creative activities that encourage mindfulness. Come read and move with us!

#### MEMORIAL DAY T-SHIRT CRAFT

 Fri., May 22 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Make a Memorial Day t-shirt you can wear and write a thank you note to a veteran. Registration required. Call 318-327-1382.

### WEST MONROE

#### EGG EXTRAVAGANZA

 Tues., Apr. 7 | 3:45-5 p.m. | AGES 0-36 MONTHS  
Egg hunt with old fashioned party games


#### PAJAMA/MOVIE DAY!

 Thurs., Apr. 16 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Join us in celebrating National Pajama day! Wear your favorite pajama's and watch *Monsters, Inc.* (G).

#### EARTH DAY MOVIE

 Wed., Apr. 22 | 3:30-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Celebrate Earth Day by watching *Fern Gully: The Last Rainforest* (G).

#### MUFFINS WITH MOM


 Fri., May 8 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Come eat a muffin with your mother for Mother's Day while watching *Brave* (PG).

#### MOVIE MONDAY


 Mon., May 18 | 1-5 p.m. | FAMILY  
Join us in an afternoon showing of *Elemental* (PG).

### WEST OUACHITA

#### STEMULATING MONDAY

 Mon., May 4 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
We will be making beaded suncatchers.

#### PAINTING WITH A POP

 Mon., May 11 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Come join us for a cute spring painting.

#### STEMULATING MONDAY

 Mon., May 18 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12  
Come join us for a fun spring STEM activity.

# TEEN PROGRAMS

- MOVIES 
- BOOKISH & WRITING 
- EVENTS & SOCIALS 
- CLASSIC GAMES 
- VIDEO GAMES 
- COMMUNITY SERVICE 
- ARTS & CRAFTS 
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 

## ANNA MEYER

- DND**  
Sat., Apr. 11 | 2-4 p.m.  
Join us on an adventure! Create your own character or choose from a list of premade characters.
- COLOR BY NUMBERS**  
Thurs., Apr. 16 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Bring your friends and enjoy a spring-themed color by numbers!
- ARTS & CRAFTS**  
Mon., Apr. 20 | 2-3 p.m.  
Create your own bouquet of flowers using magazine clippings.
- GAME NIGHT**  
Sat., May 2 | 2-3 p.m.  
Bring your friends and join us for an afternoon of Uno!
- DND**  
Sat., May 9 | 2-4 p.m.  
Join us on an adventure! Create your own character or choose from a list of premade characters.

## CARVER-MCDONALD

- GET READY FOR SUMMER-MOSQUITOS**  
Thurs., Apr. 9 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Prepare for a bug free summer!
- EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**  
Sat., Apr. 18 | 2-3 p.m.  
Saturday Science STEM project
- POETRY MONTH**  
Thurs., Apr. 30 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Please join us for an afternoon of poetry reading.
- TEEN & DATING VIOLENCE**  
Sat., May 2 | 1-2 p.m.  
Important information on Teen Dating Violence
- ARTS & CRAFTS**  
Thurs., May 7 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Make special gifts for mom for Mother's Day.
- PREVENTATIVE MEASURES-HUMAN TRAFFICKING**  
Sat., May 16 | 2-3 p.m.  
Important information on Human Trafficking

## LOUISE WILLIAMS

- TEEN HANGOUT TIME**  
Wed., Apr. 1 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come hangout, enjoy snacks, and let us know what kind of library programs you would like.
- GAME NIGHT**  
Wed., Apr. 8 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come join us for snacks and board games or video games.
- MOVIE NIGHT**  
Wed., May 6 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come join us for pizza and *Five Nights at Freddy's 2* (PG-13).
- GAME NIGHT**  
Wed., May 13 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come join us for snacks and board games or video games.

## MAIN

- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: CHARACTER CREATION**  
Mon., Apr. 6 | 4-5 p.m.  
Learn how to make your D&D character!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: MINIFIGURE PAINTING**  
Mon., Apr. 13 | 4-5 p.m.  
Paint a D&D minifigure.
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: COMBAT DEMO**  
Mon., May 4 | 4-5 p.m.  
Learn the basics of D&D combat.



## OLLIE BURNS

- SILHOUETTE POETRY**  
Tues., Apr. 14 | 4-5 p.m.  
Let the words flow and write a poem about yourself.
- MOVIE NIGHT**  
Tues., Apr. 28 | 4-6 p.m.  
Come watch a movie: *King Richard* (PG-13) and enjoy popcorn.
- MOVIE NIGHT**  
Tues., May 12 | 4-6 p.m.  
Enjoy a movie: *Aquaman* and *The Lost Kingdom* (PG-13).

## OUACHITA VALLEY

- SHAKESPEARE BINGO AND POP**  
Tues., Apr. 7 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Come have soda, snacks, and play Shakespeare-themed bingo!
- SHAKESPEARE MOVIE NIGHT**  
Thurs., Apr. 23 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.  
It's Shakespeare Day! Come watch *Twelfth Night* (PG) and celebrate with some Shakespeare-themed activities and snacks!
- MINECRAFT MOVIE NIGHT**  
Wed., May 6 | 3:30-4:45 p.m.  
Come watch *A Minecraft Movie* (PG) with some snacks!
- CANVAS PAINTING: MINECRAFT EDITION**  
Tues., May 19 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Painting Minecraft flowers and animals for the incoming summer!





## SEARCY MEMORIAL

- TULIP WREATH**  
Thurs., Apr. 2 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come enjoy an evening of crafts. We will be making tulip wreaths.
- CALM DOWN WITH COLORING**  
Thurs., Apr. 9 | 4-5 p.m.  
It's National Unicorn Day! Come color some mythical unicorns.
- VIDEO GAME & VIBE**  
Thurs., Apr. 16 | 4-5 p.m.  
Play games on the Nintendo Switch with friends.
- MOVIE NIGHT**  
Thurs., Apr. 23 | 4-6 p.m.  
In honor of William Shakespeare Day, we will be showing *10 Things I Hate about You* (PG-13).
- JUNK JOURNAL**  
Thurs., Apr. 30 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come create your own Junk Journal.
- BOARD GAME NIGHT**  
Thurs., May 7 | 4-5 p.m.  
Bring your friends and enjoy playing some classic board games!
- VIDEO GAME & VIBE**  
Thurs., May 14 | 4-5 p.m.  
Play games on the Nintendo Switch with friends.
- COLORING AND TEA TIME PARTY**  
Thurs., May 21 | 4-5 p.m.  
Celebrate International Tea Day by sipping tea and coloring.
- MOVIE NIGHT**  
Thurs., May 28 | 4-6 p.m.  
Come watch a showing of *Bob's Burgers: The Movie* (PG-13) in honor of International Burger Day.

## STERLINGTON

-  **MAKE A ZINE**  
Tues., Apr. 7 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Make your own portable magazine of art. Get to zinging.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., Apr. 9 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **SEQUIN ART**  
Tues., Apr. 14 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Create art with flair. Hot glue sequins, buttons, pom poms, etc. to jazz up your painting.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., Apr. 16 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **SCULPTING MANIA**  
Tues., Apr. 21 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Sculpt some goofy characters to add to our YA sculpting display.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., Apr. 23 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **SCRATCH ART**  
Tues., Apr. 28 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Sometimes art just needs to be scratched on a black sheet of paper.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., Apr. 30 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **COMMUNITY SERVICE: FNAF PIXEL ART**  
Tues., May 5 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Color by number pixel art style of your favorite Five Nights at Freddy's characters.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., May 7 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **DAILY DOODLE PROMPTS**  
Tues., May 12 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Prompts for the silliest of doodles just waiting to be drawn.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., May 14 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **CREATE YOUR OWN POKEMON**  
Tues., May 19 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Make your own Pokebuddy. Draw them, determine their evolutions, etc.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., May 21 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.
-  **DIY BOOKMARK**  
Tues., May 26 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Create a bookmark with cardstock, hot glue, and bits & bobs.
-  **GAME ON THURSDAY**  
Thurs., May 28 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Get your game on! Play board games, card games, and Switch games with your friends.




## WEST MONROE

-  **COMMUNITY ART: SPOOL PAINTING PROJECT**  
Wed., Apr. 8 | 3:30-5 p.m.  
Make your mark on the library! Help paint and design large wooden spools that will become part of the library art display. All supplies provided; teamwork and creativity encouraged.
-  **ROLL FOR ADVENTURE: DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**  
Sat., Apr. 11 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.  
Come enjoy a relaxed D&D session designed for beginners. Learn the game as you play, explore a fantasy world, and work together to tell an epic story. No prior experience required.
-  **POETRY WITHOUT RULES**  
Wed., Apr. 15 | 2-4 p.m.  
Write poetry your way. Try blackout poetry, short forms, found poems, or something original in a relaxed, judgment-free space.
-  **BOARD GAME HANGOUT**  
Wed., Apr. 22 | 2-4 p.m.  
Take a break and hang out with friends over board games at the library. Choose from a mix of classic and modern games or bring your own. Drop in, play, and chill.

## WEST MONROE

-  **BOOK PAGE BUTTERFLIES**  
Wed., Apr. 29 | 1-3 p.m.  
Turn recycled book pages into butterflies and help create a spring-themed wall display in the library.
-  **MINI ZINES**  
Wed., May 6 | 2-4 p.m.  
Fold and design a mini zine using just one sheet of paper. Fill your zine with drawings, quotes, stories, or anything you want!
-  **ROLL FOR ADVENTURE: DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**  
Sat., May 9 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.  
Come enjoy a relaxed D&D session designed for beginners. Learn the game as you play, explore a fantasy world, and work together to tell an epic story. No prior experience required.
-  **GALAXY JARS**  
Wed., May 13 | 1-3 p.m.  
Create your own swirling galaxy in a jar. Space is limited, call 318-327-1365 to reserve a seat!
-  **MOVIE MONDAY**  
Mon., May 18 | 1-5 p.m.  
Join us in an afternoon showing of *Elemental* (PG).
-  **GAME NIGHT**  
Wed., May 20 | 2-3 p.m.  
Unwind and have fun at the library's game night! Enjoy video games, group games, or classic favorites in a relaxed, social atmosphere. Drop in, play, and hang out.

## WEST OUACHITA

-  **PAINTING WITH A POP**  
Tues., May 12 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come join us for a fun spring painting.
-  **GAME NIGHT**  
Tues., May 19 | 4-5 p.m.  
Join us for game night! We will be playing classic board games.
-  **COSPLAY CLUB**  
Tues., May 26 | 4-5 p.m.  
Come join us for Cosplay Club and bring any projects you need help with. Costumes are always welcome!



# JOIN A BOOK CLUB



## BOOKS & BANTER

### MAIN BRANCH

Books & Banter is for romance lovers who enjoy good stories and even better conversations.

Tues., Apr. 7 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*Bringing Down the Duke* by Evie Dunmore

Tues., May 5 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*From Blood and Ash* by Jennifer L. Armentrout



## CULTURE IN CONTEXT

### MAIN BRANCH

Discuss works written predominantly by authors that are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

Tues., Apr. 21 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*Summerhouse* by Yiğit Karaahmet

Tues., May 19 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
Summer Reading Challenge Preview



## JUST READ

### SEARCY MEMORIAL

We discuss our favorite books from all genres. Come and discuss while enjoying cookies and coffee.

Thurs., Apr. 30 at 2-3 p.m.

Fri., May 22 at 2-3 p.m.



## KETTLE & CAULDRON

### WEST MONROE

Where stories steep and conversations flow.

Mon., Apr. 13 at 3:30-5:45 p.m.  
*84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff

Mon., May 11 at 4:30-5:45 p.m.  
*Isola* by Allegra Goodman



## LOST IN THE STACKS

### MAIN BRANCH

Spans genres with member selected titles, this is where books and friends meet.

Tues., Apr. 14 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*Broken Country* by Clare Leslie Hall

Tues., May 12 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
Summer Reading Challenge Preview

## YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUBS



## GRIMM READERS

### ANNA MEYER

A Young Adult book club that discusses YA horror.

Sat., Apr. 25 at 2-3 p.m.  
*Through the Woods* by Emily Carroll

Sat., May 23 at 2-3 p.m.  
*Anya's Ghost* by Vera Brosgol



## MYSTICAL MARGINS

### WEST OUACHITA

Mystical Margins Book Club is escaping the ordinary one enchanted page at a time!

Fri., May 1 at 1-2 p.m.

*Blood Over Bright Haven* by M.L. Wang



## ONLINE BOOK CLUB

### FACEBOOK

Too busy to join a traditional book club? Try our Facebook group and check online to see what our quarterly read will be! Scan our QR code to join.



## OTAKU READER'S CLUB

### OLLIE BURNS

Join us as we discuss various genres of manga and other graphic novels. Genre of the month: Adventure!

Wed., Apr. 1 at 5-6:30 p.m.  
Genre of the month: Fantasy

Wed., May 6 at 5-6:30 p.m.  
Genre of the month: Fantasy



## PAGE TURNERS

### WEST OUACHITA

We discuss thrilling and suspenseful page turners.

Fri., May 8 at 2-3 p.m.

*Beautiful Ugly* by Alice Feeney



## RAINBOW READS

### MAIN BRANCH

Rainbow Reads is an 18+ book club that celebrates diversity with books by and about our LGBTQ+ community members. For questions reach out to Ellen at emasters@oplib.org.

Thurs., Apr. 30 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*It Came from the Closet: Queer Reflections on Horror* by Joe Vallese

Thurs., May 28 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*Legends & Lattes* by Travis Baldree



## READ WELL WITH OTHERS

### OUACHITA VALLEY

Join as we read and discuss our favorites and recent reads.

Wed., Apr. 15 at 5:30-7 p.m.

Wed., May 20 at 5:30-7 p.m.



## SCIFI FANTASY

### STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

We read and discuss great scifi and fantasy books with others that enjoy them too!

Sat., Apr. 25 at 2-4 p.m.  
*Upgrade* by Blake Crouch

Sat., May 23 at 2-4 p.m.  
*The Tainted Cup* by Robert Jackson Bennett



## THRILLING THURSDAYS

### MAIN BRANCH

Thrilling Thursdays discusses books with twists and turns that keep you on the edge of your seat.

Thurs., Apr. 16 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

Thurs., May 21 at 5:30-7 p.m.  
To be announced

# DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAMS



Files

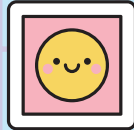


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**OUACHITA VALLEY**

File Edit View Help

**MOBILE DEVICES**  
**Mon., Apr. 20 at 5-6 p.m.**  
 Learn how to use your mobile devices.

**HOOPLA AND CLOUDLIBRARY**  
**Sat., May 5 at 1-2 p.m.**  
 Learn how to get ebooks and audiobooks with Hoopla and cloudLibrary.

**MAIN BRANCH**

File Edit View Help

**GOOGLE DOCS**  
**Thurs., Apr. 9 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
 Learn how to use Google Docs basic features for creating, editing, and sharing word processing documents.

**GOOGLE SHEETS**  
**Thurs., May 14 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
 Learn how to create and manage spreadsheet data using the basic features of Google Sheets.

**ANNA MEYER BRANCH**

File Edit View Help

Space is Limited. Call (318) 327-1351 or email Nathan at nflores@oplib.org to register.

**COMPUTER BASICS CLASS**  
**Every Mon. at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
 Learn computer basics and hone your skills to operate a computer.

**COMPUTER BASICS CLASS**  
**Every Wed. at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
 Learn computer basics and hone your skills to operate a computer.

**PRACTICAL COMPUTER SKILLS**  
**Every Tues. at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
 Build on basic knowledge to learn practical and useful computer skills.

**SMARTPHONE LITERACY**  
**Every Thurs. at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
 Learn more about smartphones including how to operate, navigate, and utilize them in effective ways.

WHAT KIND OF DIGITAL RESOURCES ARE AT MY LIBRARY?

With e-Book and e-Audiobook collections at your local library, you can enjoy your favorite reads without the worry of those pesky seasonal allergies.

**Use your library card and PIN number (last 4 digits of your telephone number) to:**

- Access your OPPL account online
- Access Free Digital Apps

**Convenient Services at Your Fingertips:**

Place or order items online for pickup at any of our **10 branches**.  
 Check out and return items at **any location**.  
**Extend your checkout** period by phone or online.

**Access Free Digital Apps** Enjoy books, movies, music, and more through:

- Hoopla
- cloudLibrary
- Freegal
- Kanopy

**Easy Login Tips:**

- Hoopla: Library card number + email + password
- cloudLibrary: Library card number + PIN (last 4 digits of your phone number)

# ADULT PROGRAMS



BOOKISH & WRITING 

EVENTS & SOCIALS 

HEALTH & WELLNESS 

MOVIES 

TALKS 

ARTS & CRAFTS 

HISTORY TALKS 


GAMES 

D&D & RPG GAMES 


IN THE GARDEN 

## ANNA MEYER


### TABLETOP RPG

 **Mon., Apr. 6 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Join our Tabletop RPG adventure! This session continues our Fallout Campaign.


### WELLSPRING PARENT CAFE

 **Wed., Apr. 8 | 1-2 p.m.**  
Join us as Deterise Addison hosts a Parent Cafe where parents and caregivers can come together for support and learn about resources they can utilize.

### BOARD GAMES

 **Mon., Apr. 13 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Come play some board games with us!

### TABLETOP RPG

 **Mon., Apr. 20 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Come join our Tabletop RPG adventure! This session continues our Dungeons and Dragons Campaign.

### BINGO BONANZA

 **Mon., Apr. 27 | 3:30-4:30 p.m.**  
Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo!


### TABLETOP RPG

 **Mon., May 4 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Come join our Tabletop RPG adventure! This session continues our Fallout Campaign.

### BINGO BONANZA

 **Mon., May 11 | 3:30-4:30 p.m.**  
Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo!

### WELLSPRING PARENT CAFE


 **Wed., May 13 | 1-2 p.m.**  
Join us as Deterise Addison hosts a Parent Cafe where parents and caregivers can come together for support and learn about resources they can utilize.

### TABLETOP RPG


 **Mon., May 18 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Come join our Tabletop RPG adventure! This session continues our Dungeons and Dragons Campaign.

## CARVER-MCDONALD

### FUNGI AND MUSHROOM IN NATURE

 **Thurs., Apr. 9 | 11-12:30 p.m.**  
Friends of Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Louisiana Master Naturalists will discuss and explore the world of fungi and mushrooms in its natural habitat.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING


 **Thurs., May 14 | 11-12:30 p.m.**  
Raising awareness about human trafficking and fighting against exploitation.

## LOUISE WILLIAMS

### HERBS AND SPICES

 **Thurs., Apr. 9 | 1-2 p.m.**  
LSU AgCenter Agent Cathy Agan shares healthier ways to use herbs and spices in recipes to reduce sodium intake.

### HISTORY OF "THE CHITLIN CIRCUIT"

 **Thurs., Apr. 16 | 10-11 a.m.**  
Local Historian, Lora Peppers of the Ouachita Parish Public Library's Genealogy Department, will present history on "The Chitlin Circuit."

## LOUISE WILLIAMS

### NOVA SCOTIA - THE CAJUN STORY

 **Sat., Apr. 18 | 2-3 p.m.**  
Rocky Boudreaux, a local photographer, will give a pictorial lecture on Nova Scotia - "The Cajun Story."


### GENEALOGY SERIES - PART 1

 **Mon., May 4 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.**  
Local Historian, Cynthia Robertson of the Ouachita Parish Public Library's Genealogy Department, will present a Genealogy Series-Part 1.


### HERBS AND SPICES

 **Thurs., May 7 | 1-2 p.m.**  
LSU AgCenter Agent Cathy Agan shares healthier ways to use herbs and spices in recipes to reduce sodium intake.

### LEGENDS OF BRYANT'S ADDITION


 **Sat., May 16 | 2-3 p.m.**  
Local film maker, Marcus Simmons, will present his documentary on three Monroe, LA NBA/NFL players, *Legends of Bryant's Addition*.

### GENEALOGY SERIES - PART 2

 **Mon., May 18 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.**  
Local Historian, Lora Peppers, of the Ouachita Parish Public Library's Genealogy Department, will present a Genealogy Series-Part 2.

## MAIN


### THE CAT'S TAIL GUILD

 **Thurs., Apr. 9 | 5-7 p.m.**  
Join us for D&D one-shots! The April game has been moved to the 2nd Thursday due to Good Friday.


### WRITE CLUB

 **Mon., Apr. 13 | 5:30-7 p.m.**  
Join Write Club and hone your craft!


### HOOKS & BOOKS

 **Tues., Apr. 14 | 2-3:30 p.m.**  
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

### CHRONICLES OF YARNIA

 **Sun., Apr. 26 | 5:30-7 p.m.**  
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.


### THE CAT'S TAIL GUILD

 **Thurs., May 7 | 5-7 p.m.**  
D&D one-shots will resume this month at our regularly scheduled 1st Thursday. Hope to see you at the table!


### WRITE CLUB

 **Mon., May 11 | 5:30-7 p.m.**  
Join Write Club and hone your craft!

### HOOKS & BOOKS

 **Tues., May 12 | 2-3:30 p.m.**  
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

### CHRONICLES OF YARNIA

 **Tues., May 26 | 5:30-7 p.m.**  
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

## OLLIE BURNS



### STRESS-RELIEF WORKSHOP

Wed., Apr. 8 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Join us for relaxation, chamomile and ginger tea, and peaceful coloring.



### SPRING VISION BOARD REFRESH

Wed., Apr. 22 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
New season, fresh vision.



### BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED

Wed., May 6 | 5:30-7 p.m.  
Join us to plant your favorite flower seed and watch it grow.



### GAME NIGHT

Wed., May 27 | 5:30-7 p.m.  
Join us and let the games begin!

## CHAIR ONE FITNESS WITH ZAKIYA

### OLLIE BURNS

Every Mon., Tues., and Wed. in April and May  
From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Join us for a fun low-impact workout designed to improve strength, flexibility, and circulation...set to soulful tunes.

## OUACHITA VALLEY



### MOVIE MATINEE

Fri., Apr. 10 | 2-4 p.m.  
Join us for popcorn and a movie. We will be showing *The Goonies* (PG).



### SPRING CLEAN YOUR FINANCES

Sat., Apr. 11 | 2-3 p.m.  
Learn how to get your finances in order.



### MOVIE MATINEE

Fri., May 8 | 2-3 p.m.  
Join us for popcorn and a movie. Movie To be Announced.

## SEARCY MEMORIAL



### LOUISIANA SUPER PLANTS!

Thurs., Apr. 9 | 10-11 a.m.  
LSU AgCenter Agent Kerry Heafner will tell you about the Super Plants to grow in your Louisiana garden.



### MOVIE MATINEE

Thurs., Apr. 9 | 2-4 p.m.  
Watch *Splash!* (PG), the story of a workaholic who thinks he will never find love and the mermaid who comes ashore to find him and prove him wrong. Refreshments provided.



### FIGHT INFLAMMATION WITH FOOD

Fri., May 1 | 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
LSU AgCenter Agent Cathy Agan presents how food choices affect your body's inflammation response.



### READY, SET, GROW! STARTING A VEGETABLE GARDEN

Fri., May 15 | 10-11 a.m.  
LSU AgCenter Agent Kerry Heafner will give you ideas on plants to grow for a bountiful veggie feast this summer!



### MOVIE MATINEE

Thurs., May 28 | 2-4 p.m.  
Watch *Willow* (PG), a timeless fantasy tale where heroes come in all sizes. Refreshments provided.

## STERLINGTON



### MINI BUNNY TOPIARY

Tues., Apr. 1, 2025 | 2-3:30 p.m.  
Make a small moss bunny topiary perfect for spring decor. All supplies are provided. Calling 318-327-1382 to register.



### WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: HOUSING & LANDLORD-TENANT ISSUES

Wed., Apr. 15 | 12-1 p.m.  
Attorneys with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss landlord and tenant issues. Q&A will follow the presentation.

## STERLINGTON



### IRIS PAPER FOLDING

Wed., Apr. 22 | 2-3:30 p.m.  
Learn the art of iris folding to create a layered spring-themed design using patterned paper. All supplies are provided.



### WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: GRANDPARENTS' RIGHTS

Tues., May 12 | 12-1 p.m.  
Attorneys with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss grandparents' rights. Q&A will follow the presentation.



### HYPERTUFA FLOWER POTS: DEMO AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

Wed., May 13 | 2-4 p.m.  
Join local artist Heather Gill for a hands-on introduction to hypertufa, a durable material used to make garden pots and planters. Watch a live demonstration and then craft a hypertufa pot. Space is limited, call 318-327-1382 to register.

## WEST MONROE



### MUSICAL MORNINGS

Sat., Apr. 11 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Come join us for a pitch perfect time with *Pitch Perfect* (PG-13)! Refreshments provided.



### SPRING PLANT SWAP

Wed., Apr. 22 | 2-3 p.m.  
Join us for our Spring Plant Swap! Bring plants, seeds, pots or anything plant-related that you'd like to share with others. Take something new for yourself!



### MUSICAL MORNINGS

Sat., May 9 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Join us for a Mother's day viewing of *Mamma Mia* (PG-13). Refreshments provided.



### EASY LANDSCAPE ACRYLIC PAINTING

Wed., May 20 | 2-3 p.m.  
Learn how to paint beautiful trees and flowers with cotton swabs on canvas.

## SPRING PLANT SWAP

### SEARCY MEMORIAL

Thurs., Apr. 30 From 1-3 p.m.

Green thumbs unite! Due to repairs to West Ouachita Branch Library, the Spring Plant Swap will be held at Searcy Memorial Branch Library for this spring only. Our annual fall Plant Swap will be at West Ouachita Branch Library in October. Bring shareable treasures from your garden. No on-site sales please.

## WEST OUACHITA



### THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB

Thurs., May 14 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.  
Paint birds with us! We have the supplies, come dressed to paint! Call 318-327-5414 to register. Spaces are limited.



### MOVIES IN THE AFTERNOON

Thurs., May 28 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.  
Watch *The Burbs* (PG) with us! A suburbanite cancels his vacation trip to help keep watch on his new neighbor. When a grouchy neighbor disappears, the watch group investigates.



### HEALTHY SOIL, HEALTHY PLANTS

Thurs., May 21 | 10-11 a.m.  
LSU AgCenter Agent Kerry Heafner will be presenting the benefits of healthy soil to your planting success!



Robert Layton – portrait of either the first or second Robert Layton

# FIVE MEN, ONE NAME – ROBERT LAYTON

In researching family history, often the same name is found to have been used repeatedly. These “favorite names” can make genealogy challenging. Sometimes it helps to put birth and death dates with the names to distinguish them. In local history, the name Robert Layton was used at least five times. The first Robert Layton immigrated to New Orleans and was thought to be a descendant of Great Britain’s King George III. His son married Melinda Tennille Bry and that brought him to Monroe. His son, grandson, and great-grandson were all named Robert Layton. The last Robert Layton died in 1977.

Robert Lawn Layton (1786-1841) was a native of London, England and came to New Orleans in 1806.

Robert Layton married Susan Gilchrist in 1810. They had three children before she died in 1819. In 1823, he married Margaret Newman Hewes. They had four children including Robert Layton. Robert Lawn Layton died in New Orleans in 1841. He and his first wife are buried at St. Louis Cemetery #1 in a small section reserved for Protestants.

Robert Layton (1827-1886) was born in New Orleans. He traveled to California in 1849 during the gold rush. John James Audubon’s son, John Woodhouse Audubon traveled with him. In 1858, he married Melinda Tennille “Nannie” Bry, the daughter of Henry Bry, and they made their home in Monroe, Louisiana where Robert Layton was a landowner and farmer.



Robert Layton 4 1892-1974 with daughter Carol and son Robert 5 1927-1977



Robert Layton 3 first from left with his wife Eugenia Stubbs Layton, her sister Anna Stubbs Sandel and brother in-law Percy Sandel

The Ouachita Telegraph in 1870 reported on his growing of English walnuts, Early Rose potatoes, and Hanson lettuce. Robert Layton died in 1886 and is buried in the Bry Layton cemetery.

Dr. Robert Layton (1863-1892) studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, France and was a graduate of Tulane Medical School. He married Eugenia Tucker Stubbs in 1887. He died at age 29 from pneumonia after making a house call to a sick family. Their son, Robert Layton, was born on the same day that his father died and Dr. Robert Layton's mother, Nannie Bry Layton, died six days after Dr. Robert Layton. His widow, known in the family as Mama Genie, is credited with the extensive remodeling that resulted in Layton Castle. Dr. Robert Layton is buried in the Bry Layton cemetery.

Robert Layton Sr. (1892-1974) graduated from LSU in 1913, studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1916. He was employed by the law firm Stubbs, Theus & Grisham, attorneys before serving in the United States Army during World War I. He married Carol Flower of

Alexandria, Louisiana and practiced law for more than 60 years. He was also a farmer and lifelong resident of Monroe. Robert Layton Sr. is buried in the Bry Layton cemetery.

Robert Layton Jr. (1927-1977) graduated from Neville High School, attended Virginia Military Institute and Louisiana State University and graduated from Louisiana Tech. Robert Layton was a World War II veteran and later a businessman in his hometown of Monroe, Louisiana. Robert Layton left his estate, Layton Farm, to what is now ULM and he is buried in the Bry Layton cemetery.

More information on the many Robert Laytons is available in the Layton Castle Collection of the Louisiana Digital Library, [louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/oplib-lay:collection](https://louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/oplib-lay:collection). To find information on your family history and



possibly determine if your family has a "favorite name" please visit the Genealogy department of the Ouachita Parish Public Library Main Branch.



**Ouachita Parish Public Library**  
 1800 Stubbs Avenue  
 Monroe, LA 71201  
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 Monroe, LA 71203  
 Permit # 41

**HEY!** Would you like to receive Cattails, the library's bimonthly newsletter, in your inbox or mailbox? Email [hneeley@oplib.org](mailto:hneeley@oplib.org) to be added to the list.

**SPRING  
 WORD SEARCH**



a	r	g	k	e	d	m	p	s	f	u	e	w	o	k	b
p	a	u	f	t	w	p	l	a	n	t	i	n	g	w	o
h	i	j	c	d	b	f	b	g	m	i	q	i	c	z	m
v	n	s	g	a	l	x	b	a	o	b	n	l	o	a	u
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n	p	i	c	n	i	c	y	b	p	s	u	n	x	y	m
q	w	e	l	h	q	o	d	i	j	t	a	l	i	z	f



**VISIT YOUR  
 LOCAL BRANCH!**

**ANNA MEYER**  
 1808 US Hwy 165 S.  
 Monroe, LA 71202  
 (318) 327-1351

**CARVER-MCDONALD**  
 2941 Renwick St.  
 Monroe, LA 71201  
 (318) 327-1477

**LOUISE WILLIAMS**  
 140 Bayou Oaks Dr.  
 Monroe, LA 71203  
 (318) 327-5422

**MAIN BRANCH**  
 1800 Stubbs Ave.  
 Monroe, LA 71201  
 (318) 327-1490

**OLLIE BURNS**  
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