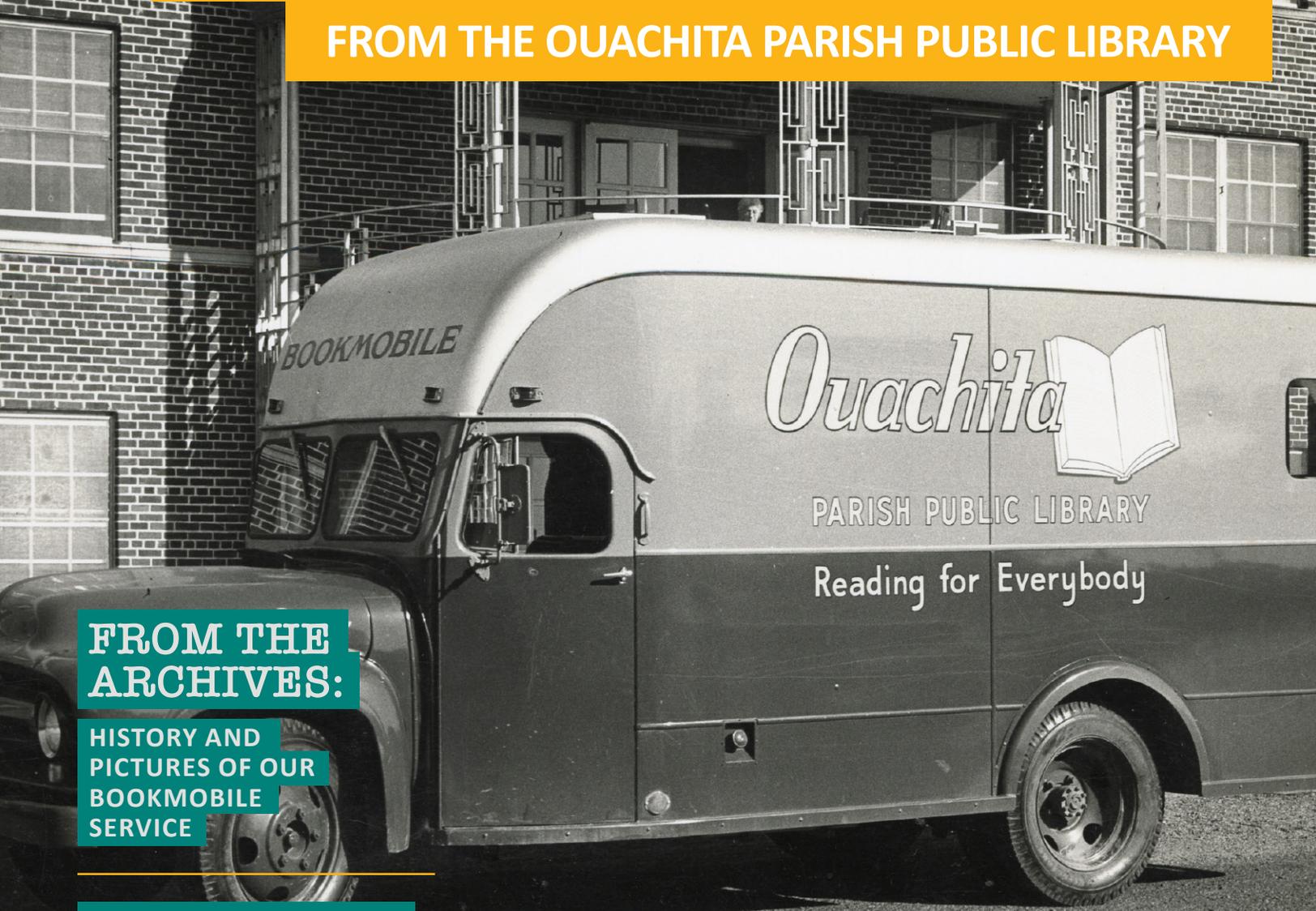


CATTAILS

APRIL/MAY 2023

FROM THE OUACHITA PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY



FROM THE ARCHIVES:

HISTORY AND PICTURES OF OUR BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

WORDS HAVE POWER

WINNERS OF LOUISE WILLIAMS BRANCH'S INAUGURAL WORDS HAVE POWER CONTEST



IN THIS ISSUE

- 01 HOLIDAYS & CONGRATS
- 02 WORDS HAVE POWER
- 03 STORYTIMES
- 04 BOOK CLUBS & HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY TO LOST IN THE STACKS BOOK CLUB
- 05-06 KIDS PROGRAMS
- 07-08 TEENS PROGRAMS & BOOK SPINE POETRY CONTEST
- 09 DIGITAL LITERACY COURSES
- 10 GETTING HIRED!
- 11-12 ADULT PROGRAMS
- 13-14 FROM THE ARCHIVES: BOOKMOBILE



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

Easter: Friday, April 7 | Saturday, April 8 | Sunday, April 9

Memorial Day: Monday, May 29

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE!

The book sale is cash only. All book sale proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library, who support Library programming. The book sale is the last Friday and Saturday of each month, April 28th-29th and May 26th-27th from 9-3pm and at the West Ouachita Branch Library and at West Ouachita Branch Library.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations **Madeline M.** for earning her Master's in Library and Information Science with a Certification in Youth Services and Literature from the University of Southern Mississippi!



Find Billie the Bookworm!

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

WORDS HAVE POWER



The Louise Williams Branch hosted their inaugural Words Have Power contest in honor of Black History Month. All teens in Ouachita Parish were invited to submit a notecard with their favorite quote and what it meant to them. Out of the 154 notecards that were submitted, the judges narrowed them down to the top 6 and awarded the winners as follows:

1st Place Jaleiyah Markcom

“Nothing will work unless you do.” -Maya Angelou

This quote made me think of my past and memories I could remember in 2020 my dad died I thought I left life for a while when I found out, I started to mess up in

school, my grades were getting bad and I was having a bad behavior in school. And my mother really didn't have a good bond as me and my dad did and because I would always hang out with my dad a lot, we even tried the first Popeyes chicken sandwich together and I would never forget that memory no matter how old I will get. And now I'm in Ouachita Junior high School, getting good grades, for the first nine weeks of School I made a 3.0 Honor roll and I shocked myself and my family. I now know in 2023 that whatever you want to accomplish in life it will only work if you do it because nobody else will. And I know a lot of people that don't believe they can do it but if I can you can.

**Honorable mentions:
Aydain Ritchie, Abigail Mizell,
& Brandon Breaux**



2nd Place Brianna Stewart

“You've got to learn to leave the table when love is no longer being served.” -Nina Simone

Sometimes there will be situations in life that you'll have to back out of because it is no longer healthy for you. It may be a toxic friend/relationship or even your job and work place that you're attached to. But if you aren't being respected you must let go of it so you can grow as a person. Nothing on this planet can prosper with a parasite attached to it.



3rd Place Jyrah Bell

“When they go low, we go high.” -Michelle Obama

I chose this quote because you don't have to stoop to anyone's level. Be better than them and reach for something great.



We want to thank the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this contest and everyone who submitted an entry. Keep your eyes out for more contests coming soon!

STORY TIME

WHEN IS STORY TIME?

Story time is the same time every week at your local library branch.

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 Mondays at 4 p.m.
6-12 years Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

LOUISE WILLIAMS BRANCH

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

OLLIE BURNS BRANCH

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

OUACHITA VALLEY BRANCH

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

SEARCY MEMORIAL BRANCH

0-5 years Wednesdays 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 3:30 p.m.

WEST OUACHITA BRANCH

18-36 months Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
3-5 years Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m.
Family (0-12 years) Wednesdays at 3:45 p.m.



JOIN A BOOK CLUB!



“ I have enjoyed reading many books that I otherwise wouldn't have considered, and as a bonus I have made some new book-loving friends. ”

Verone, member of 1 year

“ If you are a person who loves to discuss what you read (like me), I hope you will consider visiting LITS or one of the many other Ouachita Parish Library book clubs including the one on Facebook. Happy 10 Year Anniversary LITS! ”

Vanessa, member of 10 years

“ I enjoy book discussions especially if the point of view is different from mine. I'm excited to see what this varied group will pick to read for the coming year!! ”

Kathy, member of 10 years

HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY TO OUR OLDEST BOOK CLUB, **LOST IN THE STACKS** AT THE MAIN BRANCH LIBRARY!

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

Tues., April 11 at 6-7:30 p.m.
The Midnight Library by Matt Haig.

Tues., May 9 at 6-7:30 p.m.
Join us in May to get a jump start on your summer reading when we discuss a special selection from among the Top Six Summer Reads for Adults.

JUST READ **SEARCY**

Thurs., April 27 at 2-3 p.m.
We will be discussing old and new titles for Spring.
Thurs., May 25 at 2-3 p.m.
We will be discussing old and new titles for the Summer months

MOCHA MONDAY **MAIN**

Celebrate the stories of People of Color.
Mon., April 3 at 5:30-7 p.m.
Memphis by Tara M. Stringfellow
Mon., May 1 at 5:30-7 p.m.
You're Invited by Amanda Jayatissa

TRUE CRIME **OLLIE BURNS**

Wed., April 19 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.
We will be showing and discussing a video podcast of Doomsday Couple Lori and Chad Daybell
Wed., May 17 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.
We will be showing and discussing a video podcast of the Idaho Murders.

THRILLING THURSDAYS **MAIN**

Thrilling Thursdays discusses books with twists and turns that keep you on the edge of your seat.
Thurs., April 20 at 5:30-7 p.m.
The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave
Thurs., May 18 at 5:30-7 p.m.
56 Days by Catherine Ryan Howard

ANY GOOD BOOKS **OUACHITA VALLEY**

Any Good Books Book club is a space for you to share your favorite and/or current reads.
Mon., April 10 at 5:30-6:45 p.m.
Mon., May 8 at 5:30-6:45 p.m.

ONLINE BOOK CLUB **FACEBOOK**

Check online to see what book we will be reading and discussing. Join at facebook.com/groups/OuachitaParishPublicLibrary.
April and May

OH, THE HORROR! **LOUISE WILLIAMS**

If you wish it were Halloween all year round, then you'll love our new horror-themed book club.
Sat., April 29 at 2-3 p.m.
Baby Teeth by Zoje Stage
Sat., May 27 at 2-3 p.m.
Annihilation by Jeff VanderMeer

PAGE TURNERS **WEST OUACHITA**

Join us as we discuss thrilling and suspenseful page turning books
Thurs., April 13 at 2-3 p.m.
Little Nothings by Julie Mayhew
Thurs., May 11 at 2-3 p.m.
Dark Matter by Blake Crouch

SCIFI-FANTASY **STERLINGTON**

We read and discuss great sci-fi and fantasy books with others that enjoy them too!
Sat., April 22 at 2-3 p.m.
We will be discussing the *Star Trek* spooify goodness of *Redshirts* by John Scalzi
Sat., May 27 at 2-3 p.m.
Dune by Frank Herbert

RAINBOW READS **MAIN**

For members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. For more information: emasters@oplib.org
Mon., April 24 at 5:30-7:30 p.m.
I Can't Date Jesus by Michael Arceneaux
Mon., May 22 at 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Everyone in This Room Will Someday be Dead by Emily Austin

COMMUNITY READERS **OLLIE BURNS**

Thurs., April 24 at 10-11 a.m.
The Fields by Erin Young
Thurs., May 29 at 10-11 a.m.
The Hollow Kind by Andy Davidson

BEYOND THE PAGES **WEST MONROE**

Beyond the Pages Book Club will meet to discuss their favorite books that they have been reading.
Wed., April 26 at 2-3 p.m.
Wed., May 31 at 2-3 p.m.

KIDS PROGRAMS



CRAFT 
GAME ON 
STEM 
NATURE 
ACTIVITIES 
MOVIES 

 APRIL FOOL'S CRAFT AND STORYTIME	Sat., April 1 at 2 p.m.	Main	FAMILY
 STEMULATING MONDAYS	Mon., April 3 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Come join us for a fun STEM activity. We will be making houses for peeps!
 MATHY MONDAY	Mon., April 3 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	AGES 6-12 Join us for a numbers story and some math games! Focus will be on multiplication.
 CREATE A MOVABLE PAPER RABBIT	Tues., April 4 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Make a paper rabbit craft with moveable parts, or a pop-up bunny or rocking bunny
 THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR-PART I	Tues., April 4 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 We will read <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i> . Students will be introduced to the caterpillars in the caterpillar enclosure at the Library.
 EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA	Wed., April 5 at 3:30-5 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 6-12 Join us for egg-citing egg hunts, prizes, music and Grab & Go Kits! Plus a surprise special guest!
 EGG-APALOOZA	Wed., April 5 at 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington	AGES 6-12 Who will find the most eggs? Come join us for a fun filled Easter Egg Hunt!
 EGGSTRA SPECIAL STORYTIME & CRAFTS	Wed., April 5 at 4-5	JR Searcy	FAMILY Join us for an extra special Storytime, scavenger hunt, and Easter craft. We will make an Easter themed I Spy game bottle.
 DIY EASTER EGG CRAFT	Thurs., April 6 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 PAINT IT & PLANT IT	Mon., April 10 at 4-5:15 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 6-12 Come paint a flower pot & plant your own flower of choice, just in time for Spring!
 KIDS' MOVIE MANIA	Mon., April 10 at 4-6 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Visit our Branch for an exciting movie featuring... <i>Sonic the Hedgehog</i> ! Don't forget your Grab & Go Kit for additional fun at home.
 DIY BALANCING BIRD	Tues., April 11 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	TWEEN 9-12 YEARS Come try your hand at making a balancing bird
 KIDS' GAME: BINGO	Wed., April 12 at 4-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	AGES 6-12 Do you want to win some prizes? Join us at the library as we play bingo! Multiple prizes available.
 SIDEWALK MURAL	Fri., April 14 at 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington	AGES 6-12 Help us get the library ready for summer by creating a sidewalk mural with sidewalk chalk! Weather permitting.
 CHILDREN'S CINEMA	Sat., April 15 at 12-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	FAMILY Come enjoy a movie at the Library with your friends and family! We will feature <i>DC League of Super-Pets</i>
 PARENT STEM PROGRAM	Sat., April 15 at 1-2 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Learn how to make slime by using raw material such as glue, borax, and water. Then discover the mysteries of Slime together!
 SUPER SIZZLIN SATURDAY	Sat., April 15 at 2 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Come join us for a Spring craft.
 STEMULATING MONDAYS	Mon., April 17 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Can you keep your egg from cracking? Come join us for the egg drop challenge.
 EARTH DAY PERSON OR WINDSTOCK	Tues., April 18 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Make Earth Day crafts like windsock, crown, or Earth Day paper person.
 THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR PART II	Tues., April 18 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Kids will report and discuss their observations of the caterpillars.
 EARTH DAY SEED BOMBS	Wed., April 19 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 6-12 In honor of Earth Day, make these cute earth shaped seed bombs. It's a great way to learn how to grow your own flowers.
 KIDS' FREE PLAY	Thurs., April 20 at 1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	PRESCHOOL We have coloring pages and puzzles, we have blocks, we have lots of toys! Come join us at the library for a free play session.
 DIY WASHER COASTER	Thurs., April 20 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 WOODEN SPOON PUPPETS	Thurs., April 20 at 3:45-4:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	AGES 6-12 Paint and make animal puppets from wooden spoons.
 KIDS' CRAFT: EARTH DAY	Fri., April 21 at 4-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	6-12 YEARS Create a small pot out of a recycled plastic bottle, then fill it with soil and a seed that you can watch grow!
 LATHER IT UP WITH COURTNEY WORTHY	Sat., April 22 at 1-2 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12 Handmade Soap Workshop. Registration Required. Call Main Children's Department @ 318-327-1490 Ext. 3041 to register.
 PLANT A SEED AND WATCH IT GROW	Tues., April 25 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 9-12 Plant a seed to take home and watch it grow
 DIY PICTURE FRAME CRAFT	Thurs., April 27 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 CHILDREN'S CINEMA: FERDINAND	Fri., April 28 at 4-6:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Relax at the library with a page-to-screen movie!

 STEMULATING MONDAYS	Mon., May 1 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Can your airplane fly the farthest? Come join us for a fun paper airplane challenge.
 MATHY MONDAY	Mon., May 1 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	6-12 YEARS Join us for a numbers story and some math games! Focus will be on division.
 DIY INK BLOT ART	Tues., May 2 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Experiment: Make an ink blot cloud shape
 BUTTERFLY RELEASE AND CELEBRATION	Thurs., May 4 at 10-11 a.m.	Carver-McDonald	FAMILY The Very Hungry Caterpillar spends his FINAL day at Carver-McDonald Library
 DIY MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT	Thurs., May 4 at 10:30 a.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 CARDBOARD NATURE CRAFT	Thurs., May 4 at 3:45-4:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	AGES 6-12 Make a cardboard vase to collect flowers and clovers on your next nature walk.
 MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT	Sat., May 6 at 10:30 a.m.	Main	FAMILY
 DIY MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT	Tues., May 9 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 9-12 Make your own Mother's Day Craft with provided supplies
 MOTHER'S DAY FINGERPRINT ART	Wed., May 10 at 3:30-3:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 6-12 Your mom will adore this cute and simple work of art, and she can treasure for years to come!
 GARDEN DAY	Wed., May 10 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	FAMILY Learn about gardening by reading books and hands-on in the Carver-McDonald garden.
 TWEEN GAME DAY	Thurs., May 10 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Play games with your library friends like Uno or checkers.
 KIDS' CRAFT: MOTHER'S DAY	Fri., May 12 at 4-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Prepare for Mother's Day by making a craft at the library!
 DIY LAVA LAMP	Fri., May 12 at 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington	AGES 6-12 Come learn how to make a water bottle lava lamp! We will also talk about the science that makes our lava lamps work.
 KIDS' SATURDAY MATINEE	Sat., May 13 at 10-4 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Come out and enjoy kid friendly movies that are also great for the family!
 STEMULATING MONDAYS	Mon., May 15 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 What makes a kite fly? Come join us for a fun STEM activity and learn all about kites, and make your own kite!
 GAME NIGHT	Mon., May 15 at 5-6 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 6-12 Let the games begin! Show off your competitive side & bring a friend to the Library for a fun evening of games!
 CREATE A "DOT" FLOWER	Tues., May 16 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Create your own "dot" flower with dot markers
 CHILDREN'S CINEMA: THE INCREDIBLES	Thurs., May 18 at 4:30-6:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Relax at the library with a Disney movie!
 PAPER BAG BOOK	Thurs., May 18 at 3:45-4:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	AGES 6-12 Create a book out of brown paper bags for collecting and documenting your treasures.
 SURPRISE MAKE & TAKE CRAFT	Thurs., May 18 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 CHILDREN'S CINEMA	Sat., May 20 at 12-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	FAMILY Bring your family to enjoy a movie at the Library! We will feature Disney Pixar's <i>Lightyear</i>
 PARENT STEM PROGRAM	Sat., May 20 at 1-2 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Build a Solar Rover together with no batteries! I have all the materials needed; what I need is your help. I hope the sun is shining because we need the sun to make it go vroom vroom!
 SUPER SIZZLIN SATURDAY	Sat., May 20 at 4 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Come join us for a Summer craft.
 MOVIE MONDAY	Mon., May 22 at 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington	AGES 6-12 We will be watching <i>How to Train Your Dragon</i> .
 MAKE A CIRCUS TENT	Tues., May 23 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 9-12 Make a circus tent with people and animals
 KIDS' KARAOKE	Wed., May 24 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Okey-dokey Karaoke! Join us for singing and dancing to Gracie's Corner, Disney songs and others with a prize for each participant!
 KIDS' FREE PLAY	Thurs., May 25 at 1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	PRESCHOOL We have coloring pages and puzzles, we have blocks, we have lots of toys! Come join us at the library for a free play session.
 DIY MUG CRAFT	Thurs., May 25 at 4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12
 GIFTS FROM THE GARDEN	Wed., May 31 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	FAMILY Children will observe what has grown in the garden. Children will be able to gather "gifts from the garden."

RECURRING EVENTS

PAJAMAS AND STORIES

FAMILY | Main Library | Wear your favorite pajamas, listen to a story, and enjoy a craft

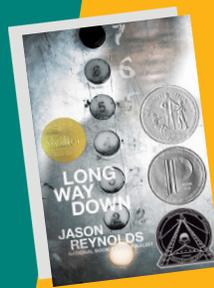
Tues., April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25, May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30 at 5 p.m.

HOMESCHOOL LIBRARY EXPRESS

FAMILY | Main Library | Join Mrs. Angela for STEM activities, community partners, and more with Homeschool Library Express.

Mon., April 3, April 10, April 17, April 24, May 8, May 15, May 22 at 10:30 a.m

TEEN PROGRAMS



Online Teen Book Club

Join our bimonthly Online Teen Book Club on the Library's Facebook page to find your next favorite read.

We will be reading *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds which is available as a print novel, as a graphic novel, and on CloudLibrary.

CRAFT

GAME ON

STEM

NATURE

ACTIVITIES

MOVIES

 THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR PART I	Mon., April 3 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Observe and record the changes that occur during a butterfly's life.
 DRINKING STRAW CUFF BRACELET	Mon., April 3 at 4-5 p.m.	West Monroe	Join us as we repurpose some drinking straws into a fun bracelet! Use old book pages to decorate straws to create something new.
 FERNGULLY	Tues., April 4 at 3-5 p.m.	Sterlington	Watch a classic film that won't bore you to death about the need for rainforests.
 PAINTING WITH A POP	Tues., April 4 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come paint with us! We will be doing a cute spring painting.
 D&D WORKSHOP	Tues., April 4 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Learn how to get started with the TTRPG Dungeons and Dragons (5e).
 JAZZ APPRECIATION RESEARCH	Wed., April 5 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	During the entire month of April, teens can receive a Jazz related question to research. Turn your answer in for a chance to win prizes.
 EGGSELLENT CRAFTING	Tues., April 11 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Eggy centric crafting goodness. Nom nom.
 GAMING GUILD: DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	Tues., April 11 at 3-5 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Come Join the Gaming Guild! This month we're playing Dungeons & Dragons! Come join in the adventure!
 BLACKOUT POETRY ART	Tues., April 11 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Create a blackout poem from an old book page, then turn it into a work of art.
 POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP	Wed., April 12 at 4:30-6 p.m.	Ollie Burns	Local author Jamie Mayes will discuss the methods of writing poetry. Join us for this workshop to gain poetry writing skills to use in our poetry slam.
 KEEPING IT REEL	Thurs., April 13 at 4-6 p.m.	Louise Williams	Find out if the book was better! We'll be watching <i>Twilight</i> . Feel free to read the novel by Stephenie Meyer, or just come for the showing!
 FEATURE FRIDAY	Fri., April 14 at 3:30-5:30 p.m.	West Monroe	Have you ever wondered how the infamous Cruella de Vil came to be? Join us on Feature Friday to take a look at her past and discover her origins watching <i>Cruella</i> .
 THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR PART II	Mon., April 17 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Discuss the life cycle of a butterfly and record in your journal your observations through writing and drawing.
 WALL-E	Tues., April 18 at 3-5 p.m.	Sterlington	The importance of preserving forests couldn't smack you in the face more than this movie shows it.
 LEGO STEM CHALLENGE	Tues., April 18 at 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Design and build a Lego structure based on your own unique mystery challenge.
 GAME NIGHT	Tues., April 18 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us for game night! We will be playing classic board games.
 BAD ART NIGHT	Thurs., April 20 at 4-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	Let your creativity run wild, without the pressure of making something "good." We will have glitter, sequins, pom poms, and more to create something truly tacky and terrible.
 DROP-IN CRAFT SPACE	Sat., April 22 at 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Stop by the game room anytime Saturday to color a bookmark, paint a rock, make a perler bead keychain or magnet, fold origami stars, or just hang out and watch a movie.
 DIAMOND DRILL DECORATING	Mon., April 24 at 4-5 p.m.	West Monroe	Bring anything you would like to bedazzle or add a little sparkle to! Decorate your items with diamond drills to bring out their inner shine.
 UPCYCLING TSHIRTS	Tues., April 25 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Make those old tshirts into something usable.
 BOARD GAME NIGHT	Tues., April 25 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Choose from a variety of board games to play with friends.
 GAME NIGHT	Tues., April 25 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Let's play Apples to Apples! This card game is easy to learn and sure to make you laugh.
 1ST ANNUAL POETRY SLAM	Wed., April 26 at 5-6:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	Join us for our poetry slam! Bring your original works to share. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. We will have local guest judges.

	GOTTA CATCH THEM ALL	All Month May 1-31	Louise Williams	Visit the Louise Williams branch anytime throughout the month of May to complete different challenges and earn Pokémon buttons. Complete all 5 challenges and you will be entered to win a special prize.
	SPACEBALLS	Tues., May 2 at 3-5 p.m.	Sterlington	It's Star Wars weeeeeeeek.
	DIY FLOWER POTS	Tues., May 2 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us for a fun night of crafting! We will be painting flower pots.
	D&D WORKSHOP	Tues., May 2 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Learn how to get started with the classic TTRPG Dungeons and Dragons (5e).
	TEEN MATINEE	Wed., May 3 at 4-6:15 p.m.	Ollie Burns	We will be showing the movie <i>Ant-Man</i> in honor of National Comic Book Month.
	MOTHER'S DAY MORSE CODE BRACELET	Mon., May 8 at 4-5 p.m.	West Monroe	Learn to write a word or short personal message in Morse code on a bracelet. It will be a unique gift for the special person in your life who deserves to be recognized this Mother's Day!
	MARSHMALLOW TOWERS	Tues., May 9 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Construct the biggest tower and get a cup of prizes.
	GAMING GUILD: DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	Tues., May 9 at 3-5 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Come Join the Gaming Guild! This month we're playing Dungeons and Dragons! Come join in the adventure!
	GARDEN DAY	Tues., May 9 at 3:45 4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Learn about gardening and growing as we plant tomatoes.
	DIY PHOTO FRAME	Tues., May 9 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Build and decorate a custom photo frame.
	COMIC BOOK EXCHANGE	Wed., May 10 at 4-5:15 p.m.	Ollie Burns	Bring your comics to share with friends and exchange for the ones you like.
	POKÉMON PERLER BEADS	Thurs., May 11 at 4-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us and create your own Pokémon art with perler beads. We will have different patterns for you to use or you can make your own!
	TANGLE ART	Tues., May 16 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Sometimes art needs to be a little confusing. Create something that makes others take a step back and go, huh.
	GAME NIGHT	Tues., May 16 at 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us for game night! We will be playing classic board games.
	ESCAPE ROOM: D&D EDITION	Tues., May 16 at 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Solve the puzzles, avoid the traps, and find the loot to escape the dungeon.
	FEATURE FRIDAY	Fri., May 19 at 3:30-5:30 p.m.	West Monroe	Enjoy a good mind boggling mystery? Come join us on this Feature Friday for a showing of <i>Death on the Nile</i> starring Gal Gadot.
	MINUTE TO WIN IT	Mon., May 22 at 4-5 p.m.	West Monroe	Join us for fun and games! From the Marshmallow Drop to Defying Gravity, to Traffic Yam and Face the Cookie, you have a minute to win it.
	CD SCULPTURES	Tues., May 23 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Make sculptures to decorate your room with using those old pesky CD's.
	BOARD GAME NIGHT	Tues., May 23 at 4-6 p.m.	JR Searcy	Choose from a variety of board games to play with friends.
	KARAOKE NIGHT	Wed., May 24 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	Have fun and join us for karaoke night.
	KEEPING IT REEL	Thurs., May 25 at 4-6 p.m.	Louise Williams	Was the book actually better? Come and find out! This month we will be watching <i>If I Stay</i> . Feel free to read the novel by Gayle Forman beforehand, or just come for the showing!
	DROP-IN CRAFT SPACE	Sat., May 27 at 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Stop by the game room anytime Saturday to color a bookmark, paint a rock, make a perler bead keychain or magnet, fold origami stars, or just hang out and watch a movie.
	GIFTS FROM THE GARDEN	Tues., May 27 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Teens will observe what has grown in the garden and gather gifts from the garden.
	COLOR ME SURPRISED	Tues., May 30 at 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington	Color detailed artwork to help relax some of that building stress.
	PERLER BEADS	Tues., May 30 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Fuse plastic beads and make a magnet or keychain with your art.

BOOK SPINE POETRY CONTEST

Entire Month of April on Facebook

Celebrate National Poetry Month by creating your own poem using titles of books from the Library! Find at least three books, stack them up, and arrange them so the words on the spines create a poem. All submissions will be posted to our Facebook page for judging, and the winner will receive a prize pack. Please submit all

- photos to aestep@oplib.org. Must be 12-18 years old to enter.

COMPUTER CLASSES



Go to oplib.org/computer-classes for one-on-one lessons and more.

ANNA MEYER FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

Space is limited. Call to register: (318) 327-1351

CORE COMPUTER CLASS

Every Tuesday & Thursday
Morning Class 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Afternoon Class 1-3 p.m.

Core classes are meant for people with little to no experience with computers. Learn to operate a computer with our computer instructor.

BEGINNING COMPUTER CLASS

Every Monday & Wednesday
Morning Class 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Afternoon Class 1-3 p.m.

Beginner classes build your computer knowledge by teaching you new things and reinforcing what you already know. If you have some computer knowledge already, then this class is for you.

APRIL/MAY COMPUTER CLASSES

MAIN BRANCH

ONLINE SAFETY

Thurs., April 13 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Learn to be safer online with accounts and passwords. Get an overview of frauds and scams to beware of.

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WORD

Tues., May 16 at 6-7 p.m.

Learn how to format, change fonts, and save a Word document. You will also learn how to open, save, and rename documents to a USB drive.

INTRO TO EMAIL

Tues., April 18 at 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Learn how to create and navigate an email account.

INTRODUCTION TO ONLINE LIBRARY RESOURCES

Thurs., May 4 at 5:30-6:30pm

Get ready for the summer reading challenge by learning about the library's online resources. Create accounts and learn about cloudLibrary, Hoopla, and Beanstack. Bringing your own device encouraged.

OLLIE BURNS BRANCH LIBRARY

DIGITAL LITERACY: TECHNOLOGY BASICS

Thurs., April 6 | Mon., April 10 | Tues., April 11 | Thurs., April 13
Thurs., May 4 | Mon., May 8 | Tues., May 9 | Thurs., May 11 at 10-11 a.m.

Are you new to computers or mobile devices, haven't used them for a while or just need a refresher? Learn the basics and build confidence using technology.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

DIGITAL LITERACY: BASICS OF GMAIL

Mon., April 17 at 10-11 a.m.

Learn to create a free Google Gmail email account and use its features to send, receive, and organize email messages.

DIGITAL LITERACY: BASICS OF VIDEO CONFERENCING

Mon., May 15 at 10-11 a.m.

Learn how to Zoom with your loved ones, colleagues, or medical professionals.

WEST MONROE LIBRARY

Space is limited. Call to register: (318) 327-1365

BEGINNER COMPUTER CLASS

Tues., April 4 | Thurs., April 6 | Tues., May 2 at 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Computer class for adults who want to learn basic computer skills. No prior skills needed.

BEGINNER WORD

Tues. April 11 at 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Computer class for adults who want to learn basic Word skills. No prior skills needed.

BEGINNER COMPUTER CLASS: TABLETS AND PHONES EDITION

Thurs., May 4 | Tues., May 9 at 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Computer class for adults who want to learn basic skills of tablets and mobile devices. No prior skills needed.

WEST OUACHITA LIBRARY

Register in person or by phone: (318) 327-5414

COMPUTER CLASS: FACEBOOK BASICS

Thurs., April 13 at 10-11 a.m.

Learn about profiles, messaging, posts, and adding content to Facebook. Registration begins April 1.

COMPUTER CLASS: GETTING STARTED IN FACEBOOK

Thurs., April 27 at 10-11 a.m.

Learn how to build your profile, add friends, and share content. Registration begins April 1.

COMPUTER CLASS: PINTEREST BASICS

Thurs., May 11th at 10-11 a.m.

Learn about profiles, posts, and adding content to Pinterest. Registration begins May 1. Register in person or by phone: (318) 327-5414.

COMPUTER CLASS: GETTING STARTED IN PINTEREST

Thurs., May 25 at 10-11 a.m.

Learn how to build your collection of useful pins and boards, follow fellow Pinners, and adjust basic security settings. Registration begins May 1.

LOOKING FOR A JOB? THE LIBRARY CAN HELP!



Did you know our collection of online job and career resources can get you on the path to your dream job?

Connect with a career coach, prep for certification exams, get help with resumes, and find tips to crush the interview.

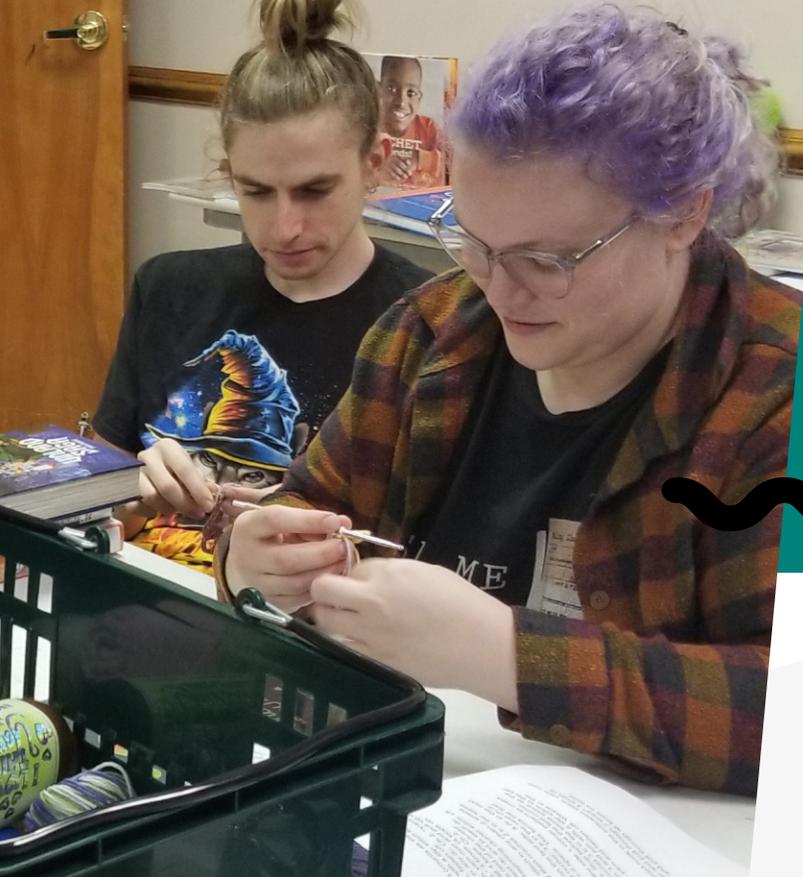
Not sure what your dream job is?

Explore different career paths and discover where your skills might be valuable. You can also refresh those computer skills while you wait for the call. Check out links to job listings and more at oplib.org/careers and start your job hunt today!

Did you know that Homework Louisiana offers a free resume review service?

Go to homeworkla.org or click the link on the OPPL website. Sign in or create a free account, then click the Home icon. Under Get Help Finding a Job, click Drop Off a Resume for Review. Fill out a short form—provide a link to your desired job description if you can—and upload a copy of your resume (.doc, .docx, or .txt). You will get feedback from your tutor within 12 hours!





ADULT PROGRAMS

LAWN & GARDEN



GARDENING: GET READY FOR LAWN & SPRING PLANTING!

Carver-McDonald | Thurs., April 20 at 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Horticulturist Kerry Heafner, LSU AgCenter will present a Lawn & Spring Gardening program. He will talk about how to create the perfect front yard and backyard landscapes with gardening tips, ideas, and techniques for your spring planting season. Different varieties of plants will be on display.

ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SWAP

West Ouachita | Thurs., April 27 at 1:30-3 p.m.
Bring plants, cuttings, and seeds to swap with other local gardeners! Registration begins April 1. Register in person or by phone at (318) 327-5414.

SOCIAL



OPEN MIC POETRY

Anna Meyer | Thurs., April 13 at 3-4:30 p.m.
April is National Poetry Month, we're celebrating with Open Mic Poetry reading. Whether you want to read a favorite of yours or even read one you wrote yourself, the mic is open and waiting for you!

STAR WARS TRIVIA

Anna Meyer | Thurs., May 4, at 3-4:30 p.m.
Test your knowledge on a galaxy far, far away! We'll be playing a trivia game about Star Wars, so come join us, and may the Force be with you!

EDUCATION & SPEAKERS



STEAMBOATS ON THE OUACHITA

West Monroe | Wed., April 5 at 2-3 p.m.
Learn about the steamboats on the Ouachita River from special collections librarian Cyndy Robertson.

IMPORTANCE OF SMOKE DETECTION

Louise Williams | Thurs., April 13 at 1-2 p.m.
Dusty Harris from the Ouachita Parish Fire Department will be speaking on fire prevention, safety tips, and the importance of smoke detection.

ADOPT A SHELTER PET

Ouachita Valley | Sat., April 15 at 1-2 p.m.
Learn how you can adopt a shelter pet.

COLORFUL CHARACTERS OF OUACHITA PARISH

West Monroe | Wed., May 3 at 2-3 p.m.
Local historian Lora Peppers will share stories about the Colorful Characters of Ouachita Parish.

HOW TO PLAN A CHEAP STAYCATION THAT FEELS EXPENSIVE!

JR Searcy | Thurs., May 11 at 2-3 p.m..
Need some ideas for a vacation while staying close to home? We will be discussing the perfect budget staycation with creative ways to make it wonderful without breaking the bank!

GENEALOGY, FAMILY HISTORY & ANCESTRY RESEARCH!

Carver-McDonald | Thurs., May 18 at 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Genealogist Lora Peppers will discuss how to trace your ancestors' unique story and your family tree, using ancestry genealogy resources. Learn how to add people to the family tree, add facts, cite sources, and attach pictures or other digital documents.

HOW TO MAKE A PLAN FOR EMERGENCIES

Louise Williams | Thurs., May 18 at 1-2 p.m..
Ouachita Parish Homeland Security will help us make a plan for emergencies.

ART & CRAFTS



CAMPUS COLLABORATIVE ART VIEWING

Sterlington | April

View paintings from the project Drawn to Biology, borrowed from the ULM Natural History Museum. These pieces were created by ULM Biology students under the guidance of ULM Art students.

CROCHET CLUB

West Ouachita | Thurs., April 6 at 1:30 -3:30 p.m.

Come crochet reusable face scrubbies! Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring a project. Register in person or by phone at (318) 327-5414.

OWL FUN FACTS & OWL IN A BOTTLE CRAFT

JR Searcy | Thurs., April 6 at 2-3 p.m.

Join us for an educational and fun afternoon. We will be making an owl in a bottle craft project with a short fun facts presentation about owls. Space is limited to the first 12 patrons so call to register at (318) 327-1240.

HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB

Main | Tues., April 11 at 2-3:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of crochet or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club encourages conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB: LAVENDER FLOWERS COTTON SWAB PAINTING

West Ouachita | Thurs., April 20 at 1:30 -3:30 p.m.

Paint a pretty lavender flower scene using cotton swabs and paint brushes. Supplies provided; space is limited. Registration opens April 1. Register in person or by phone: (318) 327-5414

MOTHER'S DAY CENTERPIECES WITH ALAN FUTCH OF DEAN OF FLOWERS

Sterlington | Tues., May 2 at 2-3:30 p.m.

Alan Futch of Dean of Flowers will show us how to make breathtaking centerpieces just in time for Mother's Day.

CROCHET CLUB

West Ouachita | Thurs., May 4 at 1:30 -3:30 p.m.

Come crochet a headband! Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring a project. Register by phone at (318) 327-5414.

HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB

Main | Tues., May 9 at 2-3:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of crochet or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club encourages conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

D.I.Y PAPER FLOWER CRAFT

Ouachita Valley | Wed., May 10 at 2-3 p.m.

Create a Paper Flower. Please call (318) 327-1470 to register.

THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB: PAINT A LOUISIANA BLACK BEAR

West Ouachita | Thurs., May 18 at 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Honor the Louisiana State Mammal: The Black Bear. We will paint this majestic creature in acrylics. Supplies provided; space is limited. Registration begins May 1. Register in person or by phone: (318) 327-5414

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT WATER BOTTLE

Sterlington | Sat., May 20 3-5 p.m.

Staying hydrated is hard--but not when you have your own emotional support water bottle. Decorate your water bottle with vinyl stickers.

MINDFUL



MEDITATION WORKSHOP WITH AMBER DEUTSCH, M.A. PLPC, ASDI

Sterlington | Thurs., April 20 at 2-3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Workshop: Amber will show us how guided meditation can help our focus and can also help us relax and calm our bodies

MEDITATION WORKSHOP WITH AMBER DEUTSCH, M.A. PLPC, ASDI

Sterlington | Thurs., April 20 at 5:30-7 p.m.

Evening Workshop: Amber will show us how guided meditation can help our focus and can also help us relax and calm our bodies

MOVIES



TIMELESS MOVIE CLUB

Main | Mon., April 10, 5-7 p.m.

Film lovers are invited to watch Bette Davis's lauded performance in *Now, Voyager*

TIMELESS MOVIE CLUB

Main | Mon., May 8, 5-7 p.m.

Cinephiles are invited to watch Joan Crawford starring in 1941's *A Woman's Face*.





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 family history at oplib.org/family-local-history.



HISTORY OF BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

Mobile Branch providing homebound, outreach and programming services in 2023

Bookmobile Service was established for Ouachita Parish Public Library patrons April 1, 1948 under the leadership of Frances Flanders, head librarian. Early bookmobile routes included Sterlington, Swartz and Ward 2, Jonesboro Highway and Ward 8, the Brown Paper Mill area, White's Ferry Road and Drew School, and the Highway Barn, Mt. Vernon School, Watson School and Cypress School. Statistics for May 1948, the first full month of service, showed the bookmobile made 21 trips, over 902 miles, they circulated 3,901 books and had 1,976 borrowers. (*Monroe Morning World* June 6, 1948)

By 1962, the "popular library on wheels" traveled 15 different routes outside the Monroe-West Monroe city limits making 82 stops over a three-week schedule and circulating as many as 1,500 books in a day. (*Monroe Morning World* April 8, 1962). By 1966, the library was serving





Ouachita Parish Public Library's First Bookmobile in 1948.

Ouachita Parish Public Library's First Courier Van in 1989.



Ouachita Parish Public Library's Early Bookmobile Interior.



the parish with two bookmobiles and two-week routes were returned. Minutes from the August 9, 1979 board meeting indicated three-week routes began again because the Ouachita Parish Highway Department limited gas for the Bookmobile to 48.7 gallons per month. This was because of the rise in the price of gasoline and also the branch libraries checked books out for three weeks. In January 1989, the first van was added.

The Bookmobile Branch is now a "Mobile Branch" that provides homebound, outreach and programming services in addition to all types of materials including movies, books, magazines, music and books on CD. Two vehicles, a bookmobile and a homebound services van carry services to underserved schools, mobile home parks, apartment complexes, daycares, assisted living facilities, nursing homes and business. The Bookmobile runs a three-week schedule and the van runs a four-week schedule. For more information please contact the Bookmobile Branch Manager at 318.327.1490 ext. 3019



Ouachita Parish Public Library
1800 Stubbs Avenue
Monroe, LA 71201
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Monroe, LA 71203
Permit # 41



VISIT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH!

MAIN BRANCH 1800 Stubbs Avenue, Monroe, LA 71201 | Phone: (318) 327-1490

ANNA MEYER

1808 US Highway 165 South
Monroe, LA 71202
Phone: (318) 327-1351

CARVER-MCDONALD

2941 Renwick Street
Monroe, LA 71201
Phone: (318) 327-1477

LOUISE WILLIAMS

140 Bayou Oaks Drive
Monroe, LA 71203
Phone: (318) 327-5422

OLLIE BURNS

5601 Hwy. 165 By-Pass
Richwood, LA 71202
Phone: (318) 327-1235

OUACHITA VALLEY

601 McMillan Road
West Monroe, LA 71291
Phone: (318) 327-1470

SEARCY MEMORIAL

5775 Jonesboro Road
West Monroe, LA 71292
Phone: (318) 327-1240

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

305 Keystone Road
Monroe, LA 71203
Phone: (318)-327-1382

WEST MONROE

315 Cypress Street
West Monroe, LA 71291
Phone: (318) 327-1365

WEST OUACHITA

188 Hwy 546
West Monroe, LA 71291
Phone: (318) 327-5414