

CATTAILS

DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022

FROM THE
OUACHITA PARISH
PUBLIC LIBRARY

TV TO PAGE

BOOKS FOR AFTER
YOU BINGE WATCH

DISGUISE A
GINGERBREAD
MAN

FROM THE
ARCHIVES

WITH GUEST
WRITER: MARGARET
MICHEL RIVOIRE



IN THIS ISSUE

02

STAFF PICKS

03-04

BOOKS FOR AFTER
YOU BINGE WATCH

05-06

CHILDREN'S STORYTIMES
AND DISGUISE A
GINGERBREAD MAN

07-08

TEEN PROGRAMS
AND TEEN WINTER
BOOKLIST

09-10

LIBRARY PROGRAMS
FOR ADULTS

11

BOOK CLUB FAVORITES

12

BOOK CLUBS

13-14

FROM THE ARCHIVES:
QUESTIONS BRING
DISCOVERY

A Note on Programs:

As of press time, all programs are scheduled to meet in-person. The Library will share any changes on oplib.org or on Library social media channels.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

All Library branches will close early at **5 p.m. Tuesday, December 21** and remain closed through **Sunday, December 26** for the Christmas holiday.

All Library branches will close early at **5 p.m. Wednesday, December 29** and remain closed through **Sunday, January 2** for the New Year holiday.

All Library branches will be closed **Monday, January 17** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

STAFF PICKS

Hunter McBride

CIRCULATION AT WEST OUACHITA

The Lost Apothecary by Sarah Penner

A female apothecary secretly dispenses poisons to liberate women from the men who have wronged them—setting three lives across centuries on a dangerous collision course. Rule #1: The poison must never be used to harm another woman. Rule #2: The names of the murderer and her victim must be recorded in the apothecary's register. One cold February evening in 1791, at the back of a dark London alley in a hidden apothecary shop, Nella awaits her newest customer—a precocious twelve-year-old named Eliza Fanning, an unexpected friendship sets in motion a string of events that jeopardizes Nella's world and threatens to expose the many women whose names are written in her register. In present-day London, aspiring historian Caroline Parcellwell finds an old apothecary vial, she can't resist investigating. She's found a link to the unsolved "apothecary murders" that haunted London over two centuries ago. Caroline's life collides with Nella's and Eliza's in a stunning twist of fate—and not everyone will survive.



Linda McClinton

CIRCULATION ON THE BOOKMOBILE

War Room: Prayer Is a Powerful Weapon by Chris Fabry

Juggling motherhood and her job, Elizabeth Jordan wishes her husband could help more around the house. With a nice home in the suburbs and a lovely young daughter, they appear to have it all—yet they can't seem to spend time together without fighting. Elizabeth meets Clara Williams, an elderly widow, and is both amused and uncomfortable when Clara starts asking pointed questions about her marriage and faith. But it's Clara's secret prayer room, with its walls covered in requests and answers, that has Elizabeth most intrigued. As tensions at home escalate, though, Elizabeth begins to realize that her family is worth fighting for, and she can't win this battle on her own. Stepping out in blind faith, putting her prayers for her family and their future in God's hands, might be her only chance at regaining the life she was meant for. **available in print and on book on CD and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook*



Rhonda Kirtland

CIRCULATION AT ANNA MEYER

Pretty Little Wife by Darby Kane

Lila Ridgefield isn't what she seems. A student vanished months ago. Now, Lila's husband, is also missing. At first these cases are treated as horrible coincidences until it's discovered the student is really the third of three unexplained disappearances over the last few years. The police are desperate to find the connection if there even is one. Little do they know they might be stumbling over only part of the truth. . . She's definitely confused about her missing husband but only because she was the last person to see his body, and now it's gone.



TV TO PAGE

BOOK FOR AFTER YOU BINGE WATCH

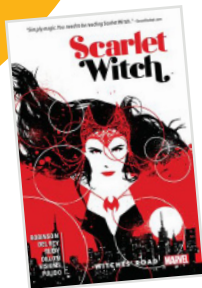


DID YOU BINGE WATCH **WANDA VISION** ON DISNEY+ ?



The Vision by Tom King

Comic book, available in print and on the Hoopla app.



Scarlet Witch
by James Robinson

Comic book, available in print and on the Hoopla app.



Young Avengers: The Children's Crusade by Allan Heinberg

Comic book, available in print.



DID YOU BINGE WATCH **9 PERFECT STRANGERS** ON HULU?



THE LAST RESORT
by Marissa Stapley

Available in print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook) and on the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)

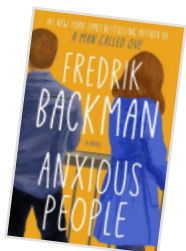


DID YOU BINGE WATCH **ONLY MURDERERS IN THE BUILDING** ON HULU?



FINLAY DONOVAN IS KILLING IT by Elle Cosimano

Available in print, large print, and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook)



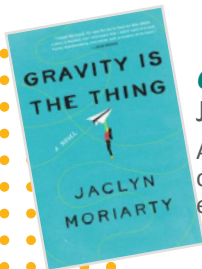
ANXIOUS PEOPLE by Fredrik Backman

Available in print, large print, book-on-CD, and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook)



SADIE by Courtney Summers

Available in print and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook)



GRAVITY IS THE THING by Jaclyn Moriarty

Available in print and on the cloudLibrary app as both e-book and e-audiobook

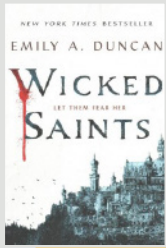


GRAVITY IS THE DIAL A FOR AUNTIES by Jesse Q. Sutanto

Available in print, large print, and on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book)



DID YOU BINGE WATCH **SHADOW & BONE** ON NETFLIX?



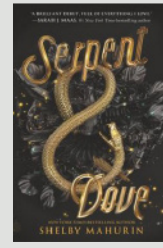
WICKED SAINTS
by Emily Duncan

Available in print and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook)



CHILDREN OF BLOOD AND BONE
by Tomi Adeyemi

Available in print, book-on-CD and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook)

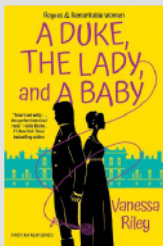


SERPENT AND DOVE
by Shelby Mahurin

Available in print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook) and on the Hoopla app (e-book and e-audiobook).

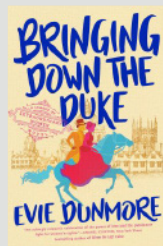


DID YOU JUST WATCH **BRIDGERTON** ON NETFLIX?



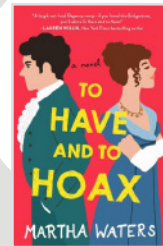
A DUKE, THE LADY AND A BABY
by Vanessa Riley

Available in print, large print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-book and e-audiobook) and on the Hoopla app (e-book and e-audiobook)



BRINGING DOWN THE DUKE
by Evie Dunmore

Available in print, large print, and on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book)

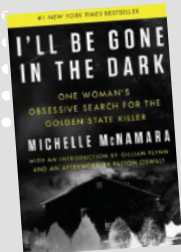


TO HAVE AND TO HOAX
by Martha Waters

Available in print and on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book).



DID YOU BINGE WATCH **THE HUNT WITH JOHN WALSH** ON HBO MAX?



I'LL BE GONE IN THE DARK
by Michelle McNamara

Available in print, large print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book) and on the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)

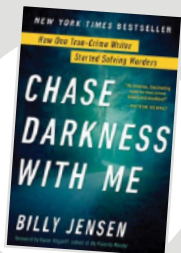


DID YOU BINGE WATCH **WHEN CALLS THE HEART** ON PRIME?



THE SHUNNING
by Beverly Lewis

Available in print, book-on-CD, on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book) and on the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)



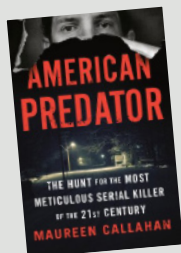
CHASE DARKNESS WITH ME: HOW ONE TRUE CRIME WRITER STARTED SOLVING MURDERS
by Billy Jensen

Available in print on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook) and the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)



WILD MONTANA SKIES
by Susan May Warren

Available in print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book) and on the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)



AMERICAN PREDATOR: THE HUNT FOR THE MOST METICULOUS SERIAL KILLER OF THE 21ST CENTURY
by Maureen Callahan

Available in print, large print and on the cloudLibrary app (e-book)



THE INNKEEPER OF IVY HILL
by Julie Klassen

Available in print, large print, on the cloudLibrary app (e-audiobook and e-book) and on the Hoopla app (e-audiobook and e-book)

DISGUISE A GINGERBREAD MAN!

Think of a storybook character, then create a disguise for the gingerbread man based on that character.

Please cut out this page and decorate the gingerbread character with materials of your choice. Consider recycling, but most importantly, have fun and get creative! Return the completed design to any Library branch on or before Monday, December 13, 2021. Three winners from each location will be selected to receive a prize bag and have their art featured on Facebook for all to enjoy.

Name: _____

Phone: _____
(so we can call you if you win!)





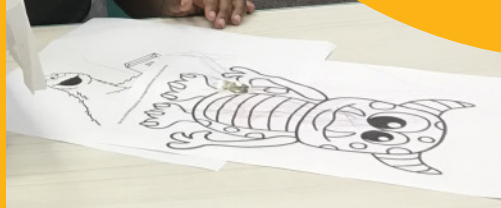
STORY TIME

WHEN IS STORY TIME?

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

DECEMBER STORYTIME

"A friend indeed is a friend who READS"
Invite your friends to story time and receive a gift to brag about. *While supplies last.



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

SEARCY BRANCH

Searcy Branch's only December Story Time will be held on December 15th. Regular Story Time will resume in January.

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

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.



TEEN PROGRAMS

STEM



A NEW YEAR ...WITH ELECTRONICS

Carver-McDonald Branch
January 18 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Teens will build different electronic projects with electronic modules!

CRAFT



MAKE YOUR MARK, BOOKMARK THAT IS

Sterlington Branch
January 11 at 3-4:30 p.m.

Teens are invited to come to the Sterlington Library to make their own bookmarks. Fulfill your New Year's Resolution to read more and do it in style.

BOTTLE WRAPPING

West Monroe Branch
January 24 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Teens can let their creative side shine with this decorative craft! From table decor to bedside flowers, the possibilities are endless!

PAPER BEAD MAKING

Ouachita Valley Branch
January 24 at 6-7 p.m.

Learn to create beads from rolled paper and Mod Podge. For a literary look, we'll use recycled book pages! Take the finished product home to make into jewelry, a keychain, or whatever you can imagine.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE



CHRISTMAS MOVIE: NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION

Sterlington Branch
December 14 at 3-5 p.m.

Teens are invited to have a blast at the Sterlington Library's showing of the Classic Christmas Comedy starring the hilarious Chevy Chase. Get ready for some Christmas hijinks.

CHRISTMAS-ADJACENT MOVIE NIGHT

Searcy Branch
December 7 at 4-5:45 p.m.

Don't feed them after midnight! Get in the holiday spirit with a showing of the 80s classic, *Gremlins* (PG).

LITERARY/ WRITING



HIGH FANTASY HAPPY HOUR

Main Branch
January 4 at 4-5:30 p.m.

Color a fantasy scene and listen to high fantasy short stories.

FANFICTION WRITING WORKSHOP

Ollie Burns Branch
January 12 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Teens are invited to learn the ins and outs of writing fanfiction with OPPL's resident writer and self-published author Alex McGarey.



GAME ON



D&D ONE-SHOT

Searcy Branch
January 11 at 4-5:45 p.m.

Dip your toes in the fantasy RPG waters! Choose a ready-made adventurer and join us for an action-packed dungeon crawl.

GAME NIGHT

West Ouachita Branch
January 11 at 4-5 p.m.

Teens are invited to join us for game night. We will be playing classic board games.

HOLIDAY BINGO

Ollie Burns Branch
December 16 at 4:30-5 p.m.

Bring your friends and enjoy a fun evening of holiday games.

FROSTY TEEN FANTASY BOOKS

WINTER CRAFT



FESTIVE FOLDING FOR TEENS

Main Branch

December 2 at 4-5:30 p.m.

Local artist, Willetta B., will instruct teens on how to make paper Christmas trees.

MINI YARN HAT CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

West Monroe Branch

December 13 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Add something special to your Christmas tree with this homemade ornament craft. 'Tis the Season!

GIANT SNOWFLAKE ORNAMENTS

Ouachita Valley Branch

December 13 at 6-7 p.m.

Part art project, part building challenge! Join us to transform popsicle sticks into your own GIANT snowflake. Create your design, build, then decorate with paint, glitter, and more.

DECORATIVE CHRISTMAS PLATE(S)

Carver-McDonald Branch

December 14 at 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Teens design and make their own decoupage "Christmas Plate" for Christmas to give a gift.

DIY SOCK GNOMES

West Ouachita Branch

December 14 at 4-5 p.m.

Teens are invited to join us for a fun holiday craft. We will be making no sew sock gnomes.

FROSTBLOOD BY ELLY BLAKE

Available in print and on cloudLibrary as an e-audiobook



HUNTED BY MEAGAN SPOONER

Available in print and on book on CD and on cloudLibrary as an e-book and e-audiobook



SHIVER BY MAGGIE STIEFVATER

Available in print, large print and on book on CD and on cloudLibrary as an e-book and e-audiobook



THE WINTER DUKE BY CLAIRE ELIZA BARTLETT

Available in print and on Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook



A WINTER'S PROMISE BY CHRISTELLE DABOS

Available in print and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook



WINTERSONG BY S. JAE-JONES

Available in print and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-audiobook



ADULT PROGRAMS

HEALTH & WELLNESS



BE ACTIVE YOUR WAY

Anna Meyer Branch
December 1 at 12-1 p.m.

Ollie Burns Branch
December 21 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Did you add extra pounds during the holidays? Do you want to be more physically active but just can't get motivated? The join Pam Sapp from LSU Agcenter to learn tips to become more physically active your way! Learn tips to add physical activity to your daily routine.

DIABETES & NUTRITION

Carver-McDonald Branch
January 13 at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Markaye Russell, LSU Ag Center Nutrition Agent, will discuss how to help adults who are at risk for type 2 diabetes, who are pre-diabetic or who have diabetes and their families/ caregivers learn how to manage their condition through menu planning, carbohydrate counting, portion control, and label reading.

WHOLE GRAINS

Anna Meyer Branch
January 5 at 12-1 p.m.

Ollie Burns Branch
January 18 at 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Have you ever wondered why there is such a push for you to consume more whole grains? Can you determine the difference between whole and refined grains? Join Pam Sapp from LSU AgCenter and learn all about foods from the grains section of MyPlate.



CHRISTMAS MOVIE



CHRISTMAS MOVIE: *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE*

West Monroe Branch | December 8 at 2-4 p.m.

Join us for the timeless Christmas classic, *It's a Wonderful Life*.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE: *IRVING BERLIN'S WHITE CHRISTMAS*

Searcy Branch | December 9 at 2 - 4 p.m.

Come and enjoy a classic Christmas movie to get in the holiday spirit. We will be showing *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera Ellen.

LEARN ABOUT LOCAL



FAMILIES IN NEED OF SERVICES (FINS)

Carver-McDonald Branch | December 4 at 1-2:30 p.m.

Shelia J. Fobbs, FINS Coordinator, Monroe City Court, will discuss What is FINS? What does FINS provide? & How does FINS work? within the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court System.

USING THE LOUISIANA DIGITAL LIBRARY

West Monroe Branch | January 19 at 2-3 p.m.

Cyndy Robertson, of the Special Collections Department, will share information about the Louisiana Digital Library.

WINTER CRAFTS



FESTIVE FOLDING: PAPER CHRISTMAS TREES

Main Branch | December 2 at 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Make and Take folded paper Christmas trees.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT CRAFT

Louise Williams Branch | December 6 at 1-2 p.m.

Join us while we listen to Christmas music and make or take your ornament.

WINTER CRAFT: SOCK HOLIDAY GNOMES

Ouachita Valley Branch | December 3 at 1-2:30 p.m.

Make a sock Holiday Gnome to greet your guests! Registration only; space limited to 10 patrons. Adults 18 and over. Registration opens on 11/2/2021 by calling **318-327-1470** or email kbyrd@oplib.org.

WINTER PAINTING CLASS

West Ouachita Branch | January 6 at 2-3:30 p.m.

Adults are invited to join us for a painting class. We will be learning how to paint a pretty winter landscape.

SNOWMAN CRAFT PROGRAM

Searcy Branch | January 13 at 2-3 p.m.

Sign up at Searcy Branch for a crafty afternoon program. We will be making a no-sew sock snowman. He will be just right for sitting on the mantel or a shelf in your home this winter! Limited to the first 12 patrons, so call **318-327-1240** and sign up today!

WINTER PAINTING: SNOWY CARDINAL

Ouachita Valley Branch | January 13 at 1-2:30 p.m.

Paint a cardinal in the snow! Registration only; space limited to 10 patrons. Adults 18 and over. Registration opens on 11/29/2021 by calling **318-327-1470** or email kbyrd@oplib.org.

TRIVIA



PUB-STYLE TRIVIA

Main Branch

January 20 at 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Theme: Let's Start Here

RECIPE EXCHANGE



HOLIDAY RECIPE SWAP

West Ouachita Branch

Whole month of December

Everyone is invited to bring your favorite holiday recipes and shop with us for a new one. Also, come and checkout our new Christmas cookbooks.

HOLIDAY RECIPE EXCHANGE

Sterlington Branch

December 2 at 10-11 a.m.

Come swap your favorite holiday recipes.

SOUP RECIPE EXCHANGE

Sterlington Branch

January 6 at 10-11 a.m.

Come swap your favorite soup recipes.

SUPER BOWL SNACK RECIPE EXCHANGE

Louise Williams Branch

January 19-February 12

Exchange recipes for Super Bowl snacks.

PLANTS & GARDENS



TREE CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Sterlington Branch

January 11 at 10-11 a.m.

Kerry Heafner, Master Gardener Coordinator at LSUAg presents how to maintain and care for your tree.



BOOK CLUB FAVORITES



FANTASY & SCI-FI

EST. NOV 2013



ENDER'S GAME by Orson Scott Card

Available in print and on book on CD and on cloudLibrary as both an e-book and e-audiobook

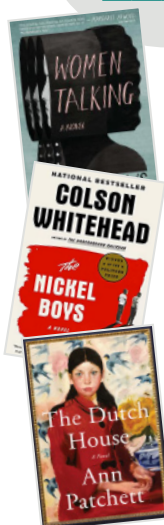
HARRY POTTER by JK Rowling

Available in print, large print and on book on CD and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook



LOST IN STACKS

EST. APR 2013



WOMEN TALKING by Miriam Toews

Available in print and large print, on cloudLibrary as an e-book and e-audiobook, and on Hoopla as an e-audiobook

THE NICKEL BOYS by Colson Whitehead

Available in print, large print and on book on CD and on both cloudLibrary as both an e-book and e-audiobook

THE DUTCH HOUSE by Ann Patchett

Available in print, large print and on book on CD and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook



RAINBOW READS

EST. JAN 2016



RED, WHITE, & ROYAL BLUE

by Casey McQuiston

Available in print, on cloudLibrary as both an e-audiobook and e-book.

BLACK LEOPARD, RED WOLF

by Marlon James

Available in print, large print and on cloudLibrary as both an e-audiobook and e-book.



MOCHA MONDAY

EST. OCT 2018



GIRL, WOMAN, OTHER

by Bernadine Evaristo

Available in print, and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook

THE VANISHING HALF

by Brit Bennett

Available in print and large print and on cloudLibrary as both an e-book and e-audiobook



ONLINE

EST. OCT 2019



THE BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK by Kim Michele Richardson

Available in print, large print and on book on CD and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook

THE GOWN by Jennifer Robson

Available in print and on both cloudLibrary and Hoopla as an e-book and e-audiobook



BOOK CLUBS



THE BOOK WAS BETTER BOOK CLUB OLLIE BURNS BRANCH

You've seen the movie, now read where it started! The Book was Better Book Club discusses books that have been adapted to movie and TV shows.

December 1 at 5 p.m.
Skipping Christmas by John Grisham

January 5 at 5 p.m. *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline



FANTASY & SCI-FI BOOK CLUB STERLINGTON BRANCH

January 22 at 2 p.m.
Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian by C.S. Lewis



MYSTERY & SUSPENSE BOOK CLUB STERLINGTON BRANCH

December 27 at 5 p.m.
An Unwanted Guest by Shari Lapena



JUST READ BOOK CLUB SEARCY BRANCH

Join us in discussing new and classic titles for the winter months.

December 16 at 2 p.m.
January 27 at 2 p.m.



MOCHA MONDAY BOOK CLUB MAIN BRANCH

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

December 6 at 5:30 p.m.
Stay with Me by Ayobami Adebayo

January 3 at 5:30 p.m.
The Kindest Lie by Nancy Johnson



THE NERD HERD'S BOOK CLUB OLLIE BURNS BRANCH

The Nerd Herd's Book Club is a group of book loving nerds who enjoy browsing, reading, sharing, and talking about books. The literary genres reach Magical Realism, Fantasy, and Sci-fi books.

January 27 at 6 p.m.
The Magicians by Lev Grossman



WHATCHA READING? BOOK CLUB STERLINGTON BRANCH

Come and share your latest reads.
January 31 at 5 p.m.



BEYOND THE PAGES BOOK CLUB WEST MONROE BRANCH

The book club members will discuss books that they have recently read.

December 15 at 2 p.m.
January 26 at 2 p.m.



ONLINE BOOK CLUB

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

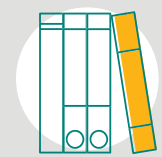
December, January & February
The Hunting Party by Lucy Foley



RAINBOW READS BOOK CLUB MAIN BRANCH

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

December 13 at 5:30 p.m. **January 31 at 5:30 p.m.**
Holiday party for Rainbow Reads book club. *Tell the Wolves I'm Home* by Carol Rifka Brunt



LOST IN THE STACKS BOOK CLUB MAIN BRANCH

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

December 14 at 6 p.m. **January 11 at 6 p.m.**
One by One by Ruth Ware *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman



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.

QUESTIONS BRING ABOUT DISCOVERY

By Margaret Michel Rivoire

"Wow, I do have a Patriot who fought in the American Revolution!" I actually said this to myself out loud as I sat at my computer.

Genealogy has been a passion for many years. It all began when I moved to Monroe in 1962. A neighbor found out that I was from South Louisiana and asked if I was a "Cajun." I always considered that I was but realized I really did not know if my ancestors had ever lived in Acadia. I would have to find the answer.

I began the quest by talking to many family members and learning where they and their parents and grandparents had lived. I then went to churches, courthouses and cemeteries in those communities. I kept records of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths. This happened over several years whenever I was able to visit those places.

A big break came when Ouachita Parish Library opened a Genealogy Room. I spent many hours reading microfilms of censuses. There were also Fr. Herbert's books, books of ship passenger lists, newspapers, and books of indexes of vital records. I was able to prove without a doubt that I was indeed a Cajun.

I made a timeline of my family and one of what was happening in the world. I put the two side-by-side and was able to write a history of my Michel family. They had

been dispersed from Acadia in 1755 and were placed in a camp in Connecticut. Conditions were dire. Napoleon was building a naval base in San Domain, not Haiti. He needed workers and promised the dispersed Acadians land and a job if they came to the Island. He sent ships to bring them. My family took advantage of this. Later there was an outbreak of disease and the older couple died. Soon after this, there was a revolution on the island. Their son came to Louisiana, which at the time was a Spanish territory. He brought sugar cane with him and became a successful planter. This was the beginning of my family in Louisiana.

I was still spending some time tracing other lines in my family tree but not with a passion as before. Then something happened. I was asked another question. "Do you have a Revolutionary War Patriot in your family?" I do not think that was possible because at no time were any of them near the Colonies. This began about a year ago in the middle of the Pandemic. The Ouachita Parish Library was my "go-to" when I needed something to do. I had joined the Cloud Library and enjoyed many books. On their website, I saw that they had made "Ancestry" available to us at home. I began to go back farther on many lines of my tree to the time of the Revolution. I have a collection of books about the Acadians. I would refer to the lists of soldiers in them as well as the timelines of events in the area.



While going back on my maternal grandmother's family, I found Jean Baptiste Rodriguez. He was included in several lists. Then going back to a timeline in 1779, I discovered that the young Governor Galvez was authorized by the King of Spain to fight the British who had established a fort at both Bayou Manchac and Baton Rouge, both on the Mississippi River. They were planning to sneak up on the Colonists from the west. The king sent 600 mercenaries from the Canary Islands to aid him. Galvaz asked the militia in the Acadian settlements to help him. This was when Rodriguez joined the fight.

On September 7, 1779, they captured Fort Bute in a surprise attack and took the British prisoners. Then on September 21, they did the same to the fort at Baton Rouge. Over 2,000 British prisoners were captured. My patriot had fought in both of those battles. Another question was answered.

I was eligible to become a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. I got in touch with Charlotte White, State Regent, and she helped me with the application. It was accepted. I have four sisters and they all joined also. We have joined several women in the Baton Rouge area and have become founding members of a new chapter, The Canary Island Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Thank you, Ouachita Parish Library and all those workers who helped me to find answers to my questions; also you helped me find a constructive way to spend a Pandemic.

At-home access to Ancestry Library Edition is being allowed by the vendor through December 31, 2021. Beginning January 1, 2022, Ancestry Library Edition will only be available inside the library on a public computer.



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