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Felder Rushing
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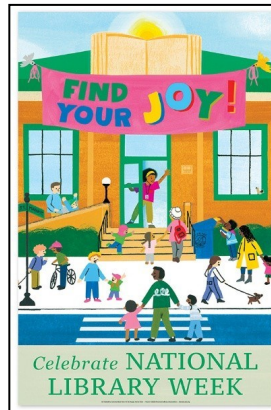
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Director’s Corner

I love April because there is a whole week dedicated to celebrating libraries! This year, National Library Week will be celebrated April 19th – April 25th. This year’s theme is “Find Your Joy!” Libraries bring joy to people every day, but having a week recognizing the work of libraries and librarians across the country is an amazing way to help us tell our stories! These are the daily themes:

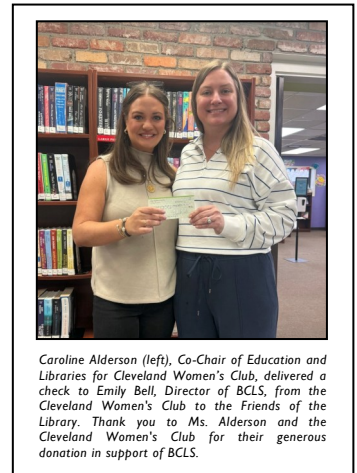
Monday, April 20: Right to Read Day, a day for readers, advocates, and library lovers to take action to protect, defend, and celebrate the right to read. The American Library Association (ALA) kicks off National Library Week with the release of its State of America’s Libraries Report, including the list of Top

Ten Most Challenged Books of 2025.



Tuesday, April 21: National Library Workers Day, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

Wednesday, April 22: National Library Outreach Day (formerly National Bookmobile Day), a day to celebrate library outreach



Caroline Alderson (left), Co-Chair of Education and Libraries for Cleveland Women’s Club, delivered a check to Emily Bell, Director of BCLS, from the Cleveland Women’s Club to the Friends of the Library. Thank you to Ms. Alderson and the Cleveland Women’s Club for their generous donation in support of BCLS.

and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.

Thursday, April 23: Take Action for Libraries Day, a day to rally advocates to support libraries.

Please follow us on Facebook to learn about upcoming National Library Week programs!

~Emily

Friends of the Library Book Sale is April 10th & 11th

BCLS invites the public to the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System Book Sale on April 10th & 11th at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland. All proceeds from the Book Sale will benefit the libraries of the Bolivar County Library System.

The Book Sale will be open on Friday, April 10th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and again on Saturday, April

11th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cash and local checks will be accepted. Unfortunately, BCLS is not equipped to accept debit or credit cards. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

As usual, the Book Sale will feature used books in all genres: fiction, including mysteries, thrillers, horror, romance, some westerns, some sci-fi; and non-fiction, including cookbooks,

self-help, religious, political, etc. Also available will be used copies of movies, series, and documentaries on DVD.

BCLS thanks the residents of Bolivar County for their continued support and dedication to BCLS through both their purchases of books and other items at the Book Sale and their donations of used books and DVDs.

LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

Felder Rushing Guest Speaker at Evening With Books

BCLS was pleased to welcome Mississippi author and gardening expert Felder Rushing to Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library for our Evening With Books program on March 12th. Mr. Rushing is author of *Alabama and Mississippi Gardener's Guide* (Cool Springs Press, 2005), blogger of Felder Rushing's Blog: Gardening Wisdom & Whimsey (<<https://felderrushing.blog/>>), and columnist of "The Gestalt Gardener" on MPB (<<http://gestaltgardener.mpbonline.org/>>). The program was hosted by the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System.



Calendar

"Nothing is pleasanter than exploring a library"

~Walter Savage Landor~
English Writer & Poet

March 27th, April 10th, 17th, 24th, May 1st, May 8th, May 15th —
Preschool Storyhour @ 10—Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

NOTE: Preschool Storyhour is Suspended During the Summer. Watch for Flyers Announcing the Summer Library Program in June

April 1st, May 6th—**Teen Time Game Day @ 4 p.m.** at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

April 15th, May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, September 16th—**Board of Trustees Meeting @ 1:30 p.m.** —

Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

NOTE: Board of Trustees Does Not Meet in August

April 3rd & 4th—**Good Friday/ Easter**—All Libraries Will Be CLOSED

April 7th, August 4th—**Seniors Day Out! @ 10—11:30 a.m.**—Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

NOTE: Seniors Day Out! Does Not Meet in June.

April 10th—**Book Sale @ 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**—Open to the Public at Robinson-

Carpenter Memorial Library

April 11th—**Book Sale @ 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

April 18th—**Cross-Tie Festival**—Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library is CLOSED

April 18th—**BCLS at Cross-Tie Festival @ 9a.m.-1p.m.**—Library Will Have a Booth at Cross-Tie

April 22nd—**Reptiles of Mississippi @ 3:30 p.m.**—Jackie Henne-Kerr from MMNS Presents—Open to the Public at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

Photography Class

On March 21st, BCLS was pleased to welcome Terrance Walker of Terrifically Taken Photos to the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library. Mr. Walker was our guest instructor of a photography class for Teens. The class featured the basics of cameras and their operation, including understanding ISO sensitivity, shutter speeds, and aperture settings. Following his presentation, Mr. Walker took participants outside to practice what they learned. Each Teen received hands-on experience with tips and advice on improving their photos. Thank you to both Mr. Walker for sharing his expertise and to the Mississippi Library Commission for lending cameras for the class



Terrance Walker (left) and Bobbie Matheney, Youth Services Librarian



Happenings...

Teen Time Game Day—March 4th



Daycare Visit by Perfected Praise Daycare, New Life Church—March 4th



Storyhours—February & March



Looking for a Good Book?

Martha: *The Forget-Me-Not Library* by Heather Webber. This wonderful novel tells the story of two women whose paths become beautifully intertwined. Following a freak accident, Juliet is happy to be alive, but ever since has felt that something is missing from her life. Following her divorce and move with her two children to her father's home, Tallulah feels like she is barely hanging on to her life. Juliet's solo trip unexpectedly brings her to Forget-Me-Not, Alabama, where she meets Tallulah, changing both of their lives—in a delightful way. If you want a really good feel-good book, read this. I really enjoyed it! (Fiction—eBook)

Tamara: *A Box Full of Darkness* by Simone St. James. Twenty years ago, six-year-old Ben Esmie disappeared—apparently into thin air—but Ben does not rest in peace. Now, the troubled Esmie siblings have been summoned by

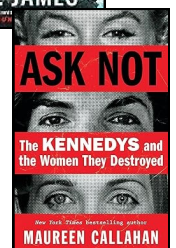
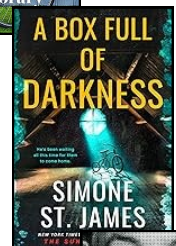
Ben, who demands they, “Come home!” They are determined to find out the truth about Ben—if they survive long enough, that is! Because Ben isn't the only ghost haunting their childhood home. The author has returned to the unsettling (evil?) town of Fell, New York, which was featured in St. James' bestseller *The Sun Down Motel*. St. James knows how to build a ever increasing sense of dread and fear. *A Box Full of Darkness* received a much deserved starred review from [Booklist](#), among other accolades. Highly recommended for those who love ghost stories. (Fiction—Print & eBook)

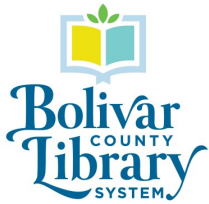
Tamara: *Ask Not: The Kennedys and the Women They Destroyed* by Maureen Callahan. Reading this book is like driving by a car crash on the interstate: it's horrible to see but you can't look away. The Kennedys are a rich and powerful family that obviously sees itself as American royalty. The patriarch

Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr. was an overachiever and very successful father of nine. He was also an antisemitic who admired Hitler, a misogynist, and a believer of eugenics. Indeed, when one of his own daughters, the lovely but doomed Rosemary, proved to be less than perfect, he had her lobotomized and institutionalized. The author argues that it is from these “poisonous roots that all Kennedy misogyny and violence... has flourished.” The book includes the heartbreaking stories of the Kennedy wives: Rose Fitzgerald, Jackie Bouvier, Carolyn Bessette, Joan Bennett, Ethel Skakel, and Mary Richardson. It also includes stories of other women who were victimized by the Kennedys, the press, and the American public—Mary Jo Kopechne, Martha Moxley, Pamela Kelley, among others whose names have been swept aside. A disturbing, but fascinating true exposé of the Kennedys. (Non-Fiction—Print)

"Libraries always remind me that there are good things in this world."

~Lauren Ward~
Singer & Actress





Bolivar County Library System
 Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library
 104 South Leflore Avenue
 Cleveland, MS 38732-2607

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9a.m.—6p.m.
 Friday 9a.m.—5p.m.
 Saturday 9a.m.—1p.m.
 Sunday Closed

All Branches Are Closed on All Legal
 Holidays (Except Columbus Day) and on
 Good Friday; Note that If Friday is a Legal
 Holiday, the Saturday Following It Will Be
 Closed, Too.

Phone: (622) 843-2774
 Fax: (662) 843-4701
 Email: info@bolivar.lib.ms.us

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Some Bolivar County History...

“Rosedale by Florence Sillers Ogden” - Continued

“Schools (Continued)”

This appeal [petition from students to build a new school] had its effect and soon plans were being made to finance a new school building. In February, 1904, under the administration of Mayor Fitzgerald, the town floated bonds for \$6,000 to build a school. The land was donated by Mr. Charles Scott. A pretty two-story white frame building with Corinthian columns was erected. But only the two downstairs rooms were equipped for school purposes. The hall or auditorium above was financed by the young men of the town, and others, as a place to dance. The second year it was converted into recitation rooms with removable partitions, and more teachers were employed. Mr. Asa McCain, of Pine Bluff, was the first principal of the new school. Miss Tillie Montgomery was the first teacher.

In 1920 the school was consolidated and the towns of Rosedale, Beulah, and Malvina were included in the district, which comprised 35,440 acres, the taxes from which provided the revenue for operating the school. A large brick building, modern and well equipped, was built at a cost \$160,000. The building commissioners were George McGee, H. H. McGowen, and J. E. Dattel. The site was the old George Scott residence, obtained at a cost of \$10,000. District bonds for \$125,000 were floated. H. H. McGowen circulated the petition to establish the consolidated school district, under the new state law for consolidated schools. He was the first president of the Board of Trustees, a position he has held continuously to the present time. The first trustees, in addition to Mr. McGowen, were George McGee and J. E. Dattel. E. L. West was the first superintendent and served two years.

J. H. Nutt served as superintendent from 1923 until 1939. Under his supervision the school was vastly improved and enlarged. A new building was added in 1930. That year saw an enrollment of 340 pupils and a faculty of thirteen members. Mr. Nutt was succeeded by C. O. Brunson, who is serving at the present time. In 1946 there was an enrollment of 320 students and a faculty of twelve. Miss Rae Wolfe has served as second grade teacher from 1922 to 1946, inclusive. Miss Alice Kamper has been a member of the faculty from 1927 to 1946, inclusive, and in addition to her teaching has produced a scholarly history of Bolivar County from its beginning to the Civil War.

The Rosedale High School is one of four schools in the county accredited by the Southern Commission; one of eighty in the state. The elementary school is one of thirty-five in the state with AA rating. Of the twenty high schools and elementary schools in the state that rank in top ratings of their groups, the Rosedale School is one.

Extra-curricular activities include athletics, glee club, debating team, Boys' Hi-Y, Girl Reserves, and school newspaper. The football eleven, the “Rosedale Bulldogs,” have won many valiant battles and are a source of pride to the community. The *Pied Piper*, the first, and for a long time only student publication in the county, is edited by the students with a faculty adviser. It was established in 1923.”

Excerpt from *History of Bolivar County, Mississippi* (DAR, 1948) by Florence Warfield Sillers, et al.

The next newsletter will continue the history of Rosedale with “Negro School.”

Bolivar County Library System:

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Rosedale Public Library

(662) 759-6332/Fax: 734-0825
 702 Front Street
 Hours: M & W 10a.m.—5p.m.
 T & Th 1p.m.—5p.m.
 F 12p.m.—5p.m.
 Martha Lawson, Librarian

Thelma Rayner Memorial Library (Merigold)

(662) 748-2105/Fax 748-2596
 201 Front Street
 Hours: T & Th 1p.m.—5p.m.
 Valency Rogers, Librarian