

# LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

Volume XXI, Issue 3

## Special points of interest:

- Things to Do During the Summer (See Page 3)
- Summer Library Program Begins Soon (See Article Below)
- National Library Week Programs Were a Blast (See Page 3)

## Director's Corner

The school year is winding down; Storyhour will soon halt until school returns. It almost feels like we made it through the year! Alas, we have not! There is so much to look forward to and we are busy working. Summer Library Program will soon begin, and this is always an exceptional time in libraries. We get to meet new friends and to welcome old friends back. It is truly special to see students who have aged out of the program want to be involved and they return to be amazing volunteers! I won't dwell on our programs because you can read more below. One huge project we are working on is reopening the Field Memorial



Library in Shaw, MS. I am excited that we can reestablish this location. We have been able to use federal ERATE grants and Mississippi LSTA grants to bring the needed wiring and technology upgrades. This could not happen without the unwavering support of the Friends of the Library! They have also provided funding assistance for computers and

shelving. Keep your eyes out for more information about Field Memorial Library over the next few months.

This one seems crazy to me, but it is almost time to begin preparing for Grape Expectations Gala! I know so many people (me included) love this night. We host the Gala every other year, and it is hard to believe it is almost here again. We do not have a date set yet, but it is typically the end of January. Go ahead and dust off your dancing shoes... Keep your calendar open! We hope to see you there!

~Emily

## Summer Library Program Begins in June

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Our Summer Library Program (SLP) is a fun program that features exciting and creative activities and crafts that keep young minds active during summer vacation. SLP invites children entering grades 1st through 6th (as of the fall semester beginning in September 2026) and teens ages 11-18 to explore new books, participate in creative activities, and build a lifelong love of reading.

As part of SLP, participants are also encouraged to set reading goals and track their progress throughout the summer. Those who have read the most during a particular week will be recognized as Star Readers with a photo on Facebook and a small prize. SLP

not only makes reading fun but also help develop critical thinking and communication skills.

Beyond books, the program creates a welcoming space where children can connect with their peers and learn together. For many, the SLP becomes a highlight of their summer, a place where imagination grows, and learning never takes a vacation.

Registration opens May 26th at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. All programs are free and will be from 12:30—2 p.m. (except Teen Songwriting, which is 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.) Call Mrs. Bobbie for more

info at (662) 843-2774 ext. 105.

### Scheduled Programs in Cleveland

June 2nd—Abee Hudson Delta Blues Princess 1st - 3rd Graders

June 4th—John Coleman, Alcorn Planting 4th - 6th Graders

TEEN PROGRAM  
June 6th—9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.  
Teen Songwriting  
11-18 Years of Age  
**SEPARATE REGISTRATION TO ATTEND THIS PROGRAM IS REQUIRED & SEATS ARE LIMITED**

Continued on Page 2 at "SLP Continued"

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## SLP—Continued

June 9th—Amanda Mayo  
Forensics & Rock Painting  
1st - 3rd Graders

June 10th—Rose Tate  
Delta Fresh Foods / Off Site  
1st - 3rd Graders

June 11th—Amanda Mayo  
Dino Origami & Forensics  
4th – 6th Graders

June 16th—Tonaria Smith, DHA  
Trails & Fossils  
1st - 3rd Graders

June 18th—Tonaria Smith, DHA  
Trails & Fossils  
4th – 6th Grades

June 23rd—Jessica Wendell  
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station,  
Entergy  
1st - 3rd Graders

June 25th—Mason Fioranelli  
Ag in the Classroom  
4th – 6th Graders

June 30th—Cheryl Davis, MDOT  
Survive Your Drive  
1st - 6th Graders

TEEN PROGRAM  
July 17th—12:30-2 p.m.  
Cheryl Davis, MDOT  
Survive Your Drive  
11-18 Years of Age

## SLP in Merigold

The Thelma Rayner Memorial Library in Merigold will have SLP programs at 2 p.m. Registration is not required. Merigold programs have not been finalized so watch for flyers and/or Facebook posts with more information.

### Scheduled Programs

June 2th—Trails and Fossils with Tonaria Smith, DHA

June 9th—TBA

June 16th—Tonaria Smith, TBA

June 23rd—TBA

June 30th—MS Reptiles with Jackie Henne-Kerr



“Books are hindrances  
to persisting  
stupidity.”  
~Spanish proverb~

## Calendar

**NOTE: Preschool Storyhour is Suspended During the Summer.**

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**

May 25th—**Memorial Day**—All Libraries Will Be CLOSED

May 26th—**Summer Library Program Registration Begins @ 9**

a.m.—5 p.m. Monday—Friday

June—**Summer Library Programs @ 12:30-2 p.m.** (except Teen Songwriting 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)  
—**Registration is Required**—See Article Pages 1 & 2 for Details

July 3rd-5th—**Independence Day**—All Libraries Will Be CLOSED

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

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

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.**

June 3rd—**Teen Time Game Day @ 4 p.m.** at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library

## Fun Events Celebrated National Library Week

Office Manager Melissa Robinson, who's inexplicably afraid of green tree frogs, but obviously not snakes (!!!!), joined in the fun at the Reptiles of MS, below and at right.

We celebrated National Library Week during April 19th-25th with some cool programs. Here are pics from the Reptiles of Mississippi featuring Jackie Henne-Kerr from MMNS; Snack Smart



program featuring Mary Presley McLellan, an FHW Extension Agent with MSU Extension, who shared tips on staying hydrated this summer; and a Preschool Storyhour.

Mrs. Bobbie reads during Storyhour (above middle), and participants enjoyed delicious snacks during Snack Smart (above).

## “I’m Bored!” Things to Do this Summer

Are you looking for some fun, science-based activities to do this summer? In addition to the Summer Library Program that begins in June (see the article that begins on the front page) there are some cool websites from reputable online organizations that have activities and projects for all ages.

**Zooniverse** is a platform for “people-powered research” that features science-based projects looking for volunteers to help with the research, or those who want to actively perform research,

may build your own project. The site features projects suitable for both adults and kids, is completely free, and all you need is access to a computer to participate. For information, go to <<https://www.zooniverse.org/about>>.

**SciStarter: Science We Can Do Together** is a platform that digitally connects and disseminates citizen science activities, making them available to the public, organizers, and researchers. A 501(c)3 organization, SciStarter is affiliated with the NOAA, NIH,

Arizona State University, Girl Scouts, and NASA, among others, and provided free of charge to the public. SciStarter connects science projects to volunteer of all ages. For more information, go to <<https://scistarter.org/about>>

**Foldit** is a one-of-a-kind protein folding computer game developed by university scientists. By playing Foldit, participants can contribute to advanced research on human health, cutting-edge bioengineering, and the inner workings of biology. Foldit is free to play and

not-for-profit. Discoveries made in the game are published in peer-reviewed research journals and Foldit players are always credited for their contributions. For more information go to their website at <<https://fold.it/>>.

Have a wonderful—and educational—summer!

## Looking for a Good Book?

**Tamara:** *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. This was made into a delightful movie starring Helen Mirrin, Pierce Brosnan, Ben Kingsley, and Celia Imrie. Of course, the book is better! Four septuagenarians from different walks of life have come together to solve cold case murders at their Thursday Murder Club meetings. When a real life murder happens on the grounds of their living facility, they spring into action to solve the case, much to the irritation of the local police who are shown up by the club member’s cleverness. I loved it! I also liked that the club members are older adults like me, so if you like murder mysteries featuring protagonists that are closer to your age, I think you will love this, too. (Fiction—Print & eBook)

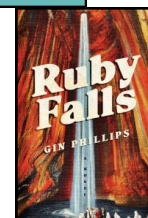
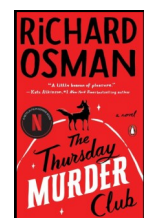
**Tamara:** *Where’d You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple. Bernadette and her 15-year-old daughter Bee have a loving relationship. The rest of Bernadette’s

relationships—not so much. Once a brilliant architect, Bernadette has become so dysfunctional and agoraphobic she hires an assistant in India to manage all of the family’s personal business. She doesn’t socialize with other mothers at her daughters private school. Her husband Elgie, described as “a Microsoft guru,” doesn’t know how to deal with his wife’s problems (he thinks she’s crazy), so, of course, he’s having an affair with a much younger woman. Then, Bernadette disappears. Where did she go? Her daughter will travel to the ends of the earth to find her... While not a new release (published in 2012 and made into a movie in 2019), this is such a wonderfully funny, heartbreaking, and heartwarming story you should not pass it up. Highly recommended! (Fiction—Print & eAudiobook)

**Tamara:** *Ruby Falls* by Gin Phillips. Leo Lambert discovered

the beautiful cave falls in Tennessee, named for his beloved wife Ruby, in December 1928, and by 1929 Ruby Falls was open to the public. But the Great Depression has brought difficult times for the Lamberts, so in a bid to attract both visitors willing to pay the admission fee and investors, a public relations event is planned. A famous mind reader will enter the caves and find a hatpin that has been hidden—in 12 hours or less. He’s joined by his wife, his manager, a local guide, a local reporter, and a local businessman. Unfortunately, they all have secrets, and not everyone will leave the cave alive. Most of the story occurs within the caves and even those who don’t suffer from claustrophobia will be squirming with dread. Author J.T. Ellison says this book “is perfect for fans of Agatha Christie who are looking for a fresh take on the locked room mystery,” and I couldn’t agree more. Very good! (Fiction—Print & eBook)

"We read  
to know we are  
not alone."  
~C. S. Lewis~





**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](mailto:info@bolivar.lib.ms.us)

Individual Phone Numbers and Email  
 Addresses for Select Individuals May Be  
 Found at Our Website.

“Like” Us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/lbcls](http://www.facebook.com/lbcls); You May  
 Also Access the Page from Our Website.



Contact the Friends:  
 Phone: (662) 843-2774  
 Email: [friendsofbcls@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbcls@gmail.com)

**We're on the Web!**  
<http://bolivar.lib.ms.us>

Even easier! Use your phone  
 to capture the QR code  
 below to go to our website.



## Some Bolivar County History...

“Rosedale by Florence Sillers Ogden” - Continued

### Negro School<sup>1</sup>

The first Negro school in Rosedale was a private one, taught by a Negro, Pris Johnson, who was educated in Ohio before the Civil War, in a school operated and owned by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

When the state legislature granted schools to Negroes, Northern teachers were employed, in public schools, as there were no colored teachers qualified. This practice lasted until the early seventies, when schools were established by various churches and began to turn out graduates, who replaced the Northern teachers.

The early Rosedale School had eight grades. In 1902 the Bolivar County Baptist Association appropriated money and built a normal school, known as the Rosedale Normal Industrial College. It was located on the church grounds of the Gospel Temple about a mile above town on the old levee road. At that time the grade school, which was being taught in the church, was moved to the college building. President Conner of Vicksburg was the first president.

The school burned in 1903 and was rebuilt on sixteenth section land just south of town. Professor Gentry was the first teacher in the new building. About 1910 the Baptist County Association sold the school building to the county; and this marked the end of the normal college, as the institution was then operated wholly as a public school. Professor Ellison served as principal from that time until his death in 1926.

Charles Wade, a graduate of Alcorn College, was employed as superintendent in 1932 and holds that position at the present time. The school building burned in 1939; and on another site, near highway Number 1, a new one-story, five room structure was erected.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>This information was contributed by Sylvester Mathews.

<sup>2</sup>The material on the negro school was furnished to Sylvester Mathews by former pupils of the school.

### Newspapers

Rosedale has had a weekly newspaper since the town came into existence. First was the *Floreyville Star*, 1873, edited by a man named Ward. The present paper the *Bolivar County Democrat*, was established in 1888, with Charles Hull as editor. A. D. Linnell published the *Democrat* from 1902 until his death, in 1928. His wife, Mrs. Lois McBroom Linnell, succeeded him. She sold to George R. Shaddock in 1939, and Mr. Shaddock still edits the paper today.<sup>1</sup>

### 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 “Library.”

## Bolivar County Library System:

### Board of Trustees:

- Ms. Katherine Crump, *Chair*
- Ms. Lynn Shurden, *Vice-Chair*
- Ms. Lucille Holmes, *Secretary/Treasurer*
- Mr. Nathaniel Grammer
- Ms. Cora Jackson

### RCML Library Staff:

- Emily Bell, Director
- Melissa Robinson, Office Manager
- Melanie Free, Systems Administrator
- Tamara Blackwell, Reference / Newsletter Editor
- Martha Lawson, Rosedale
- Bobbie Matheney, Youth Svcs
- Marie Shorter, Circulation
- Valency Rogers, Technical Svcs
- Samantha Williams, Circulation
- Hadiya Cooks, Circ/Merigold
- Ki'Shonna Bell, Circulation
- Clara, Housekeeping
- Destinee, Housekeeping

### 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.  
 Hadiya Cooks, Librarian