

Special points of interest:

- ASTRO CAMP® 2019 Registration Begins July 10th and Camp Begins July 22nd! See Page 2
- Rosedale Hosted MS Author R. J. Lee—See Page 2
- Summer Library Program Photos—See Page 3

Director's Corner

Summer is underway and things are busy at the Library! June brought the Summer Library Program to elementary aged students and July will usher in the NASA Astro Camp for teens! It is always great to see children in the library and learning to love libraries as much as I do. However, we love adults too! More comfortable furniture has been placed in the Reading Room at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library for your reading enjoyment!

The Friends of the Library had their Book Sale and it was a huge success! They received so much positive feedback about the location and set up of the area, but they aren't done! They are in the middle of adding more



We had a great turn-out for Magic Mr. Nick for the Summer Library Program on June 13th!

shelves to make the next Book Sale even better! Best thing yet?? You don't have to wait for a whole year for the next Book Sale! There will be more on that in the coming months but know to look for updates about the next sale.

Finally, I'd like to say I have had an amazing month as the new Director. It has been whirlwind, but I wouldn't have it any other way!

~Emily

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Summer Library Program—Magic Mr. Nick Performs

As the photo above attests, Magic Mr. Nick was a huge success at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library on June 13th! He performed some really cool magic tricks and the kids enjoyed helping with some of the tricks.



The LePoint Cassibry Smith Newsletter

NASA's ASTRO CAMP® 2019



Next Generation Exploring
Moon Today... Mars tomorrow!

*"Everything you need
for better future
and success has
already been written.
And guess what?
All you have to
do is go to the
library."*

~Henri Frederic Amiel

BCLS is excited to offer NASA's 2019 Stennis ASTRO CAMP® week-long program for Teens. The program is offered at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland as part the Summer Library Program for Teens in Bolivar County. Space for the ASTRO CAMP® is limited and registration is required.

NASA's stated goal for the ASTRO CAMP® is to "provide opportunities for learners to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

(STEM) educational activities that capitalize on NASA's unique assets, content, and ASTRO CAMP® methodology to expose the next generation of explorers to STEM career possibilities aligned with NASA's Mission Directives."

The program is designed to inspired future generations to learn about space exploration and develop "pathways to STEM careers;" learn about NASA and its missions; capture children's imaginations with the basics of

engineering, rocketry, robotics—and have fun while learning.

ASTRO CAMP® is July 22nd through July 26th from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. daily. Again, space is limited and registration is required. Registration is July 10th through the 18th at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland in both the Teen Room and the Children's Room.

Contact Lisa Hatcher at 662-843-2774 x108 or Bobbie Matheney at 662-843-2774 x105 if you have questions.

Calendar

July 17th—**Cleveland Commission Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

July 17th—**Board of Trustees Meeting @ 1:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

NOTICE: The Cleveland Commission and Board of Trustees do not meet in August

July 9th, 11th, 16th & 18th—**Summer Library Program for Teens from 10:30a.m.-12**

Noon—Robinson-Carpenter

July 10th-18th—**ASTRO CAMP® 2019 Registration**—Space Is Limited

July 22nd—July 26th—**ASTRO CAMP® 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Daily**—Registration Required

August 3rd—**Saturday Preschool Storyhour @ 11 a.m.** at Robinson-Carpenter—Open to the Public

Book Sale a Success

Thank you to everyone who made the Book Sale on June 13th-15th a success. Watch for flyers announcing another Book Sale in the Fall!



Mississippi Author R. J. Lee Visits the Rosedale Public Library

The Friends of Rosedale hosted a book signing featuring Mississippi author and Natchez native R.J. Lee on May 23, 2019. Mr. Lee talked about the first book his new mystery series *Grand Slam Murders: A Bridge to Death Mystery*, featuring heroine Wendy Winchester, a reporter with the local newspaper. A lovely reception followed the program.



Author R.J. Lee with Anne Martin Vetrano, Friends of Rosedale President and Event Organizer



Author R.J. Lee with Martha Lawson (right), Rosedale Public Librarian, and Tamara Blackwell, References Services Librarian,

Summer Library Programs for Elementary Was Enjoyed By All



Go to our Facebook page for more photos.

Did You Know?

We have meeting rooms available for use by the public?

Yes, we have meeting rooms in Cleveland, Rosedale, and Shelby. Meeting rooms may be used for gatherings of a community-oriented nature including non-profit, civic, cultural, informational, or educational uses, or by entities of the local, state, or federal government.

Meeting rooms **may not** be used for:

- Social gatherings, such as showers, parties, dances, reunions, sales meetings, recruitment drives, and weddings.
- Commercial activities that include charging a fee for attendance, taking up a collection or donation, or marketing or selling goods or services. However, non-profit groups **may** charge for the

cost of materials used in a program, food items, and/or membership dues.

- Regularly scheduled religious services; however, religious study groups are permitted.

Just call the library where you would like to meet and ask to reserve the meeting room. Then, complete the one-time application that outlines the Meeting Room policy and you are done!

*A library is the delivery
room for the
birth of ideas, a place
where history
comes to life.*

~Norman Cousins

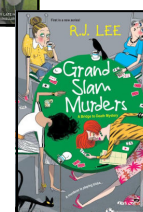
Looking for a Good Book?

Martha: *A Justified Murder* (A Medlar Mystery #2) by Jude Deveraux. The book opens with Sara, Jack and Kate having decided they are absolutely not getting involved in solving anymore murders! But they are shocked when Janet Beeson is murdered! Janet was beloved by the town, or was she? When everyone comes to them with their alibis, the trio reluctantly allow themselves to be pulled into the investigation.

Digging deeper, they find that Janet Beeson wasn't who she pretended to be! A really enjoyable book that keeps you guessing all the way to the end. I can't wait to read the next in this series. (Fiction—Print)

Tamara: *Grand Slam Murders: A Bridge to Death Mystery* by R.J. Lee. The first in the new series, *Grand Slam Murders* opens with the murder of the four wealthy ladies

of the Rosalie Bridge Club. Wendy Winchester reports the social news at the local paper, but longs to be an investigative reporter. With the murders, she sees a chance to achieve her goals by not only reporting on the investigation, but by solving the murders, too. But small towns have many dangerous secrets... An intelligent mystery with likeable characters. I loved this book! (Fiction—Print)



Some Bolivar County History...

Blanche Kelso Bruce (Continued)

1849-1898

Bolivar County Library System

104 South Leflore Avenue
Cleveland, MS 38732-2607

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00—6:00
Friday 9:00—5:00
Saturday 9:00—1:00

Closed Sundays & All Legal Holidays

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

Individual phone numbers and email addresses may be found at our website.

"Like" us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/lbcls; you may also access the page from our website.



Contact the Friends: Emily Bell
Phone: (662) 843-2774
Email: beller01@gmail.com

"In April 1879, Bruce was appointed chairman of the Select Committee to Investigate the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company after its failure in 1874. Comprising three southern Democrats and three Republicans, including Bruce, the committee set out to investigate the more-than 600 pages of testimony and documentation collected at the bank's closure to identify employees who were guilty of fraud and incompetence. The resultant Senate bill to reimburse former customers did not pass, but Bruce and his fellow Republicans succeeded in convincing the federal government to purchase the bank's former Washington, DC, headquarters to provide the company with some capital.¹⁸

As a landowner, Bruce was interested in the financial health of property owners on the banks of the Mississippi River. He supported many internal improvements and financial incentives, including the creation of a Mississippi Valley railroad and a refund for cotton taxes levied during the Civil War. In the 45th Congress (1877–1879), he served as chairman of the Select Committee on the Mississippi River. In this position, he fought for federal funding to control flooding and advocated the creation of a channel and levee system for parts of the river's edge. Bruce introduced a measure in 1879 to form the Mississippi River Improvement Association, a federally funded organization to control river flooding and protect waterfront property.¹⁹

Bruce's favor among white conservative voters was not matched among his black constituents. Despite Bruce's political advocacy, Mississippi blacks questioned his commitment to the plight of freedmen in collapsing Reconstruction governments. Bruce's privileged background often alienated him from his poorer constituents.²⁰ He and his wife, Josephine Beall Wilson of Ohio—the first black teacher in the Cleveland public schools and the daughter of a prominent mulatto dentist—whom he married on June 24, 1878, became fixtures in Washington, DC, high society. As a matter of policy, Bruce hesitated to support the westward migration of Black Americans from the South to Kansas and other Plains states. At the urging of his constituents, he introduced legislation that would assist destitute black farmers in Kansas by encouraging the federal government to issue more western land grants. His bill died in committee; however, he managed to appropriate the distribution of duty-free British cotton clothing to impoverished Kansas communities.²¹ Yet these efforts were judged lacking by the black community. Nor did the white establishment look favorably on Bruce. Despite Bruce's moderation and political connections, rising "reform" politicians in power in Mississippi, who wished to recreate a "lily white" government, discounted him because of his race. When the Democratic Mississippi legislature gathered to select a new Senator in January 1880, Bruce did not even attempt a bid for a second term. The legislature chose Democrat James Z. George to succeed him."

Excerpt: *History, Art & Archives, U.S. House of Representatives*, "BRUCE, Blanche Kelso," [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/B/BRUCE,-Blanche-Kelso-\(B000968\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/B/BRUCE,-Blanche-Kelso-(B000968)/) (August 30, 2018)

To be Continued Next Month.

We're On the Web!

bolivar.lib.ms.us



Bolivar County Library System Information:

Board of Trustees

Mr. Nathaniel Grammer, Chair

Ms. Rebecca Lewis, Vice Chair

Mr. John Raymond Bassie,
Secretary

Ms. Maggie Crawford

Ms. Anita Reginelli

Cleveland Commission:

Ms. Jurist Green, Chair

Ms. Dorothy Tolliver, Vice-Chair

Ms. Weegie Walker, Secretary

Ms. Carol Tatum

Ms. Cheryl Line

Library Staff:

Emily Bell, Director

Melissa Robinson, Office
Manager

Melanie Free, Systems
Administrator

Tamara Blackwell, Reference
Svcs / Newsletter Editor

Bobbie Matheney, Youth Svcs

Martha Lawson, Rosedale

Marie Shorter, Shelby

Evelyn Brown, Merigold / Circ.

Bethany Brooks, Technical Svcs

Tina McGee, Benoit/Circulation

Shelby Lee, Circulation

Jelisa "Lisa" Hatcher, Circulation

Kevin Reed, Circulation

Mike Emerson, Circulation

Alex Cox, Circulation

Clara, Housekeeping

Branch Information:

Benoit (662) 742-3112
Hours M & Th 1—5

Merigold (662) 748-2105 (ph) /
(662) 748-2596 (fax)
Hours M, T, W & Th 1—5

Rosedale (662) 759-6332
Hours M & W 10—5,
T & Th 1—5, F 12—5

Shelby (662) 398-7748
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5