



Communiqué

A newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana

Vol. 23, No. 1

January • February 2008

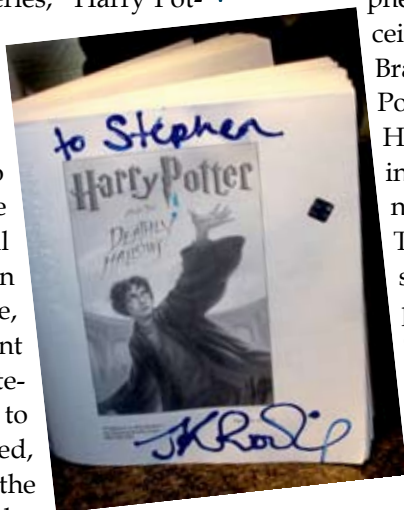
Young State Library SBPH Patron Thrilled to Meet J. K. Rowling

When 11-year-old Stephen Toth filled out the survey form at his school about reading all of J.K. Rowling's books, he wound up winning the opportunity to actually meet the Harry Potter series author herself. While many 5th graders have read the entire series, Stephen did it in Braille.

J. K. Rowling visited New Orleans October 18 to attend the Open Book Tour where she was signing copies of the last in the series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows". Predictably, there was quite a long line of children waiting to come face-to-face with the magical Rowling. But when Stephen's turn came, something different happened. As Stephen stepped up to have his book signed, Rowling stopped the assembly line to chat up the young fan, reaching out across the table to grasp his hands as they spoke.

According to Stephen's mom, Ginette Toth, "She asked him how he was, what his favorite part of the newest book was, and said how glad she was to meet him." At that point she turned to a Scholastic represen-

tative, asking the representative to get Stephen's home address. Only eleven days later, just in time for Stephen's birthday, he received a signed copy of a Braille edition of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows". Rowling being Rowling, this was no ordinary signature. The author actually signed the book in puffy paint so that Stephen could feel the words.



Ginette pointed out that the State Library's Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH) section has contributed not only to Stephen, but to the boy's entire family. Stephen, the only sight impaired child in his family, "has become an avid Braille reader thanks to the SBPH," said Ginette. "He is now helping his younger brother in 2nd grade with his nightly reading homework."

Cameron Parish Library On the Road Again With New Bookmobile

By Cyndi Sellers

From Cameron Pilot, Nov. 1, 2007

The Cameron Parish Library System received the keys last month to a brand new 40 foot long book/tech mobile, courtesy of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as part of the Gulf Coast Libraries Project. The new traveling library was delivered to Johnson Bayou, where it serves as the local branch until a new library is built. It replaces an older donated bookmobile, which will be moved to Creole, providing service to that community for the first time since Hurricane Rita.

The new vehicle was fitted with a satellite antenna before being delivered to Johnson Bayou where it was filled with \$25,000 worth of new books, DVD's and audiobooks, also provided by the Gates Foundation. It has two public computer stations, fax and copying capability, a flat screen TV for classes, a handicapped lift, and a microwave and mini-refrigerator for the staff. An awning provides shade for patrons who choose to sit outside and access the wireless Internet.

The vehicle, built by Matthews Specialty Vehicles, is constructed on a 40' motor home chassis. It has twice the space of any previous parish bookmobile. Parish Librarian Charlotte Trosclair is looking forward to taking it to area schools, as was done in the past.

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Viewpoint

2008 will be an exciting year. We are looking forward to adding to our already strong team by hiring professionals to fill our vacancies. We are excited about our expanded CE program, a possible increase in State Aid, getting out in the field more, and finally, a new ILL system.

As stewards of public money we all strive to spend taxpayer dollars wisely. We must always move ahead with products and services that give us the highest return on our investment. I know that you do this in your libraries just as we do at the State Library.

Additionally, in your libraries you must find a way to provide a variety of services that satisfy all of your users. I know that it is difficult to satisfy all of your patrons at the same time. At the State Library we face the same challenges. We work hard to make decisions that impact all libraries positively. We must take a statewide perspective when making decisions about services and products. To do this we rely heavily on our dedicated committees that are made up of representatives of all size libraries. Their hard work and commitment help us make the necessary updates to our services.

With all of that said, this year will

see a change with the implementation of a new ILL system. For many years now I have had conversations with many of you about the limitations of the current ILL system. During those same conversations you indicated to me that you were interested in an improved system but you were also cautious of change. We understand completely. That is why Diane Brown, Deputy State Librarian, Kytara Gaudin, Head of Access Services and her staff, as well as the ILL committee are working so hard to make the change from TLC to Auto Graphics as painless as possible.

On December 12th, we held our ILL Users Group meeting at the State Library, where almost 90 people attended. The meeting was informative and generated a lot of positive discussion. We were impressed to see such interest and excitement about ILL in general.

So here is to 2008 being positive, productive and innovative.

State Librarian



Katrina Damaged Library Reopens

Jefferson Parish announced that the Lakeshore Library branch has reopened in a temporary facility. The fully-functioning library facility is made possible by SOLINET's Gulf Coast Libraries Project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It is located in the library parking lot across the street from the original building in Metairie. It includes a collection of books, magazines, and DVDs; public computers with Internet access, including 2 desktop computers and 6 laptops; and free WiFi access.

The damaged building will be razed, and a new facility will be built on the same site. Sizeler Thompson Brown is currently preparing the architectural drawings and specifications.

This is the second facility in Jefferson Parish funded by the SOLINET/ Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that was opened before the end of 2007. The Gretna temporary facility opened Oct. 2.

But despite the meek, shush-shushing stereotype, librarians are largely a freedom-upholding, risk-taking group. In the name of the First Amendment and anti-censorship, they have championed the causes of provocative writers and spoken out against banned and challenged books.

*~ Writer Linton Weeks,
Washington Post*



People & Places

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

Lt. Governor Mitchell J. Landrieu announced that Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Secretary **Angele Davis** has been chosen to serve as Governor-Elect Bobby Jindal's Commissioner of Administration. The State Library is an agency within CRT.

The Lt. governor also announced that he has appointed attorney **Dawn Romero Watson** as the new Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. She has served as Undersecretary of the Department for nearly two years.

State Library of Louisiana

Rose Anne St. Romain, former State Library Early Childhood Services Consultant, accepted a position as

4-H Museum Coordinator with the LSU Ag Center in Mansura, her hometown. Rose Anne worked at the State Library for five years.

The State Library welcomes new cataloger **Kim Justice**. She comes to us from Livingston Parish Library where she worked five years as head of Technical Services. Prior to that Kim worked at Baton Rouge Community College and Southeastern Louisiana University as a cataloger. Kim earned her M.L.I.S. at LSU.

Around the State

Amy Bolen recently joined the St. Charles Parish Library staff as youth services assistant. She is working with the teens and, among other things, created the new teen blog, "Teen Screen".

Remembrances

We are saddened to let you know that Warren Smith, the husband of **Lilly Smith**, who is the long-time director of Beauregard Parish Library, passed away in December.

Allen Parish Marks 50 Years of Service

The Allen Parish Libraries celebrated 50 years of voter-supported library service with an open house December 1st at the Oakdale Branch. A newly redesigned plaza was also dedicated to Minnie-Lou Lynch. A founding member of the Library Board of Control, Lynch was instrumental in starting the Allen Parish library system in 1957. She has been recognized for her service and dedication to libraries at the local, state, and national levels.

IMLS Calls for 2008 Grants Application

Coming Up Taller

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Coming Up Taller awards that recognize and reward outstanding after-school, out-of-school, and summer arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth.

By honoring excellence in after-school, out-of-school, and summer arts and humanities programs, the Coming Up Taller awards promote a creative, engaged, skilled, and confident generation of young people. Eligible museums, libraries, performing arts organizations, universities, arts centers, community service organizations, schools, businesses, and eligible government entities are encouraged to participate.

Recipients of a Coming Up Taller award receive \$10,000 at a special ceremony in Washington, DC, an individualized plaque, and an expense-paid invitation to attend the annual Coming Up Taller Leadership Enhancement Conference. Visit <http://www.cominguptaller.org/downloads/2008CUTNominationApplication.pdf> for the nomination guidelines and application (PDF, 227KB).

Native American Library Basic Grant, Basic Grant with Education/Assessment Option, and Enhancement Grant Applications

Application Deadlines:
Basic Grants: March 3, 2008
Enhancement Grants: May 1, 2008

IMLS is accepting applications for the 2008 Native American Library Services Basic Grants and Enhance-

ment Grants. Native American Library Services Basic Grants are available to support existing library operations and to maintain core library services. Applicants may choose to apply for the Education/Assessment Option in conjunction with the Basic Grant. This option provides funding for staff participation in library-related continuing education courses, training workshops, and conferences; and for the hiring of a consultant for an onsite professional library assessment. Enhancement Grants may enhance existing library services or implement new library services, particularly as they relate to the goals of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

Applicants must apply online through Grants.gov. More information, including guidelines and the

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Job Openings

Announcements are edited for space. For further information see <http://www.state.lib.la.us/Library/Employment/index.cfm>

Thibodaux
Lafourche Parish Library
Reference Librarian

Shreveport
Shreve Memorial Library
Broadmoor Branch
Librarian II, Genealogy Librarian

Livingston
Livingston Parish Library
Cataloguing Librarian

New Iberia
Iberia Parish Library
Community Relations Coordinator

Shreveport
Shreve Memorial Library
Director

Shreveport
Hamilton-South Caddo Branch Library
Library Associate I, Circulation Department Supervisor

Covington
St Tammany Parish Library
Librarian 1, Youth Services Librarian 1, Reference

Shreveport
Shreve Memorial Library
Branch Manager of the Hamilton-South Caddo Branch Library
Librarian 3

Gonzales
Ascension Parish Library
Reference Librarian

Mandeville
St Tammany Parish
Librarian I, Youth Services Librarian

Slidell
St. Tammany Parish Library
Librarian I, Teen Reference Librarian

Thibodaux
Lafourche Parish Library
Library Director

Lafayette
Regional Library Manager
Librarian III

Shreveport
Librarian II, Cataloging Librarian

Lake Charles
Calcasieu Parish Public Library
Director

IMLS Grants *(continued)*

application, can be found at www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/nativeAmerican.shtm and www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/nativeEnhance.shtm.

IMLS has also scheduled two audio-conference calls to give prospective applicants an opportunity to ask questions pertaining to Native American Library Basic Grant and Enhancement Grant applications. Phone calls are scheduled:

Topic: Basic Grants
Date of Call: Monday, January 28
Time of Call: 2 PM Eastern Time
Participant Dial-In Number: 1-800-603-9527
Conference ID# 27475281

Topic: Enhancement Grants
Date of Call: Monday, February 11
Time of Call: 2 PM Eastern Time
Participant Dial-In Number: 1-800-603-9527
Conference ID# 27476560

For more information, contact Alison Freese, Senior Program Officer at 202/653-4665 or afreese@imls.gov.

Cameron Bookmobile *(continued)*

The new bookmobile is Cameron Parish's to keep, unlike the temporary buildings in which the Cameron and Grand Chenier branches are housed. The graphics on the side, designed by Annette and Alice Duhon, show an alligator and other local critters enjoying books, and a logo which states there is "Something for Everyone @ Your Library".

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) administered the grant from the Gates Foundation and worked with the local library and the manufacturer to make sure the new bookmobile provides the best service possible.



Louisiana Voices

2007 Focus on Katrina, Inspirational, Sports Titles



Volunteer narrator Phil Chenevert records "*The Joy of Y'at Catholicism*" by Earl J. Higgins.

2007 was a productive year for Louisiana Voices, the audio book recording studio at the State Library of Louisiana. Using volunteer teams to narrate and record unique Louisiana books for the blind, the studio produced 24 new talking books for Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH) patrons.

Visually impaired readers have been keen to learn more about the hurricanes of 2005, so the studio began three Katrina related recordings, including *Code Blue: a Katrina Physician's Memoir* by Richard E. Deichmann, completed last August and circulating widely. Jed Horne's tome, *Breach of Faith: Hurricane Katrina and the Near Death of a Great American City* is currently in process. Other works such as Michael Tracey's *She was No Lady: a Personal Journey of Recovery through Hurricane Katrina*, will be released this month.

Popular inspirational materials complement the hurricane literature. *Turning Points: Embracing Life's Defining Moments* by Dino Rizzo was released in December to eager patrons. In January, recording begins for the multiple patron requests of Lafayette authors Lyn Holley Doucet and Robin Hebert.

In 2007, sports enthusiasts enjoyed titles *Hoop Daddy: Fathers, Sons, and Basketball* by Lee Feinswog and *Tales from the Saints Sideline* by Jeff Duncan. SBPH sports fans can expect a new LSU title in 2008.

Louisiana Voices program manager, librarian Angela Cinquemano, says that the book production process is extensive and time consuming. Each book is assigned to a volunteer narrator who reads that book for one hour, once a week, until the title is complete. While the book is in process, a second volunteer staffer addresses quality assurance through an editing process. Finally, the program manager listens to the recording from start to finish, formatting it to meet the technical standards of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) and duplicating it for SBPH.



Producer Angela Cinquemano, works with Chenevert to get the recording exactly right.

The Louisiana Voices collection is available in special format to all eligible NLS patrons. Those interested in applying for the free service can contact SBPH at (225) 342-0035 or Toll-free: (800) 543-4702.

ILS Exploratory Meeting

At the request of public library directors at the Fall Administrative Librarians Conference, 21 public library staff members of which 11 were directors, representing 16 public libraries attended the ILS (Integrated Library System) exploratory meeting at the State Library on December 18th. The group discussed issues, concerns and positives about sharing a single automated system. In the end, the group consensus was to move forward and continue the discussions. The group also agreed that more libraries should be involved to create the critical mass needed. Finally, the group felt that a meeting should be set at LLA where the other 51 un-represented libraries might be more able to attend. At the request of the group, the State Library will look into options for an LLA meeting.



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS**



**THE BIG
READ**



Lafayette Public Library Partners to Bring The Big Read to Acadiana

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has awarded a grant to The Performing Arts Society of Acadiana (PASA) to host a Big Read celebration in Acadiana. The Lafayette Public Library, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and the Acadiana Arts Council are project partners in this effort. Local Sponsors include Pinhook Foundation and Fugro Chance. The Big Read, an initiative of the NEA, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest, is designed to restore reading to the center of American culture.

Acadiana's Big Read book is Zora Neale Hurston's 1937 novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Hurston's novel chronicles the journey of Janie Mae Crawford from her grandmoth-

er's plantation shack to Logan Killick's farm, then from all-black Eatonville to the Florida Everglades-until a tragedy brings her back to Eatonville. From this vantage point, Janie narrates her life story adventures to her best friend, Pheoby Watson, satisfying the "oldest human longing" - self revelation.

Library Administrator Teresa Elbertson says, "The library is excited to be a part of the Acadiana Big Read. It is a chance to have readers young and old share the bond of reading and discuss one story. Our programs will not only celebrate the novel but also the novelist."

Lafayette Public Library will have copies of the book, DVD and audio CD available for checkout. A limited number of free copies of the book, along with audioguides, will be distributed throughout the Lafayette area.

At the library and elsewhere in the community, the library will host book discussions, movie showings and storytelling events January through April, 2008. On Wednesday, February 7th, at 6:30 pm, Dr. Mary Ann Wilson, English Dept, UL Lafayette, will present a free lecture, "Hearing Black Women's Voices in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*," at the Main Library downtown. For more information about the Big Read in Acadiana, go to www.lafayette.lib.la.us.

Communiqué is a monthly publication of the State Library of Louisiana to provide information to Louisiana libraries and people with an interest in libraries. Inquiries, subscription information or requests on obtaining large print or audiocassette versions should be directed to the Communications Section.

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The State Library of Louisiana is one of our state's greatest resources for research information, government documents, genealogical data, books in Braille, audiobooks and more.

The State Library's mission is to build an informed, literate and democratic society by ensuring access to informational, cultural and recreational resources, especially those resources unique to Louisiana.

Don't Forget The LLA 2008 Conference

March 4-6, 2008
Shreveport Convention Center

[http://www.laonline.org/
ne/lla_conference.php](http://www.laonline.org/ne/lla_conference.php)



Mardi Gras to Mistletoe

Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier

Favorite Recipe Press

March 2006

ISBN: 0-9602246-0-2

Pages: 207

Mardi Gras to Mistletoe by the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier offers recipes for many holiday occasions throughout the year, as well as a historical and cultural tour through North Louisiana. With over 200 easy to prepare recipes, this is a cookbook suited for the beginner to the advanced, as well as all who love Louisiana's unique cuisine.

Mardi Gras to Mistletoe is a large, colorful cookbook. It will find a home in the kitchen as well as on the coffee table. Each chapter represents a calendar month with recipes suited for that month. In the introduction before each of the chapters, readers can learn about Louisiana history and traditions, especially the festivals and other celebrations in Northwest Louisiana. Throughout the book, there are bits of trivia, information and tips on the food, history, culture and traditions of the Shreveport-Bossier area.

Color is a highlight of this cookbook. In the photography of the Shreveport-Bossier area at the beginning of each chapter, readers can glimpse festivals and a variety of food-laden tables. There are color graphics denoting the bits of trivia, information and tips giving the book a festive air. Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook help fund charitable events sponsored by the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier, which has been helping the community since 1933. There is a list of contributors and taste testers, as well as professional contributors. The index is easy to use with entries by subject.

Mardi Gras to Mistletoe will be a welcome addition to a library's cookbook collection, as well as a great gift for the beginner to accomplished gourmand.

Charlene Bonnette is a Reference Librarian in the Louisiana Section of the State Library of Louisiana.

Cameron Parish Library to Celebrate Another Reopening Save the Date!

Cameron Parish will open a third temporary facility this January! The Johnson Bayou branch, which was destroyed by Hurricane Rita, will re-open in a temporary facility. The Grand Opening is slated for Wednesday, January 9 with local and state officials attending.

Summer Reading Program Workshops in February

The theme for the 2008 Summer Reading Program is "Be a Star - Read!" Sherry Norfolk, a professional storyteller, will be conducting three workshops in February. She holds a Master's in Library Science and has been recognized with awards from the American Library Association (ALA) and the Association for Library Service for Children (ALSC).

All workshops will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. The fee per attendee is \$25, which includes lunch.

For further information, contact Continuing Education and Training Consultant Jerome Cummings at 225-342-4931 or jcumming@state.lib.la.us.

Monday, 2/11/2008
Holiday Inn
1500 Hwy 30
Gonzales, LA 70737

Tuesday, 2/12/2008
Holiday Inn
2032 N.E. Evangeline
Thruway
Lafayette, LA 70501

Thursday, 2/14/08
Holiday Inn Confer-
ence Center
1051 US Hwy. 165
Monroe, LA 71203



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Calendar Notes

January

ALA Midwinter Meeting Philadelphia, PA January 11-16
Inauguration Day, SLL Closed..... Baton Rouge..... January 14
MLK Holiday, SLL Closed..... Statewide..... January 21
LASL Conference Alexandria January 26

February

Mardi Gras Holiday..... Statewide..... February 5
E-rate Forms 471 Due Statewide..... February 7
ILL/ Autographics Training Statewide..... February 11-22
Summer Reading Program Gonzales..... February 11
Summer Reading Program Lafayette..... February 12
Summer Reading Program Monroe February 14
LA Readers Choice Awards Due..... Statewide..... February 14
I Love Technology Workshop Lafayette..... February 14
SOLINET, Evaluating Tech. Serv..... Shreveport..... February 21
Celebration of Writers and Readers West Feliciana Parish February 23