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A LOOK BACK AT THE LAST YEAR

2023 was One for the Books!

Over the last year, YOUR Livingston Parish Library continued its mission to provide all members of the community with resources and programs to fulfill their informational, educational, recreational, and cultural needs.

Our physical and electronic collections, programs, services, and resources are better than ever, meaning we continue to offer our patrons a state-of-the-art library system they can be proud of!

And it's all because of YOU, our community!

Here are a few accomplishments from the last year:

- We returned to our pre-COVID-19 figures for the number of programs and patron participation in our annual Summer Reading Program.
- We held our BIGGEST LIVINGSTON PARISH BOOK FESTIVAL EVER, drawing more than 2,200 visitors. We also had more than 1,600 people attend Comic Con, another high mark!
- We were one of the first systems in the state to full adopt SB7, giving parents and guardians FULL CONTROL over what their minors can check out using their library card.
- The Denham Springs-Walker Branch was voted runner-up for "Favorite Library Branch" in Baton Rouge Parents Magazine's 2023 Family Favorites contest.
- We saw increases in library visits, computer usage, reference counts, physical AND electronic circulations, and meeting room reservations and attendance.
- We introduced two new checkout items to address the rapidly growing needs of our community: iPads and board games.

The Library also teamed with multiple organizations to better serve the community in 2023, including with:

- Mighty Moms, a Livingston Parish-based non-profit food pantry, for its SOUPer September canned soup drive.
- Baton Rouge Parents Magazine, for its annual Sock It To Me! Sock Drive that provides socks to the less fortunate.
- The Family Village, a Livingston Parish-based non-profit organization that works with foster families, to be the recipient of all sock donations in the Sock It To Me! Sock Drive.
- LifeShare Blood Center to host multiple blood drives, including one at the Livingston Parish Book Festival.
- Acadian Ambulance Service, to educate the public on how best to respond to an emergency involving a severe injury.
- Livingston Parish Lions Club for free vision screenings for children.

The Livingston Parish Library strives to be the community's primary resource for information and learning opportunities, as well as be a leader for innovative library services that spark curiosity and inspire new ideas.

We hope to continue that mission for generations to come!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

LIBRARY ASSOCIATE II : KATHY HUTCHINSON



WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO WORK AT THE LIBRARY, AND HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

I retired from education both as a classroom teacher and a guidance counselor in 2012. After being at home for the summer, I decided I did not want to just sit around the house. There is just so much cleaning of closets that a person can do! So I contacted a good friend who worked for the Library and asked about getting a job. She was extremely helpful, and in September 2012, I started working at the Main Branch. I worked there for a year before transferring to the South Branch when an opening became available. I have been working for the Library ever since.



WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ, AND DID YOU ENJOY IT?

I am reading a trilogy by Roberta Kagan, "*The Blood Sister Series*." It is a historical drama set during the beginning of World War II. Those are my favorite books, but I like many diverse kinds, with historical fiction being my favorite. I am enjoying the books.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY FROM THE LIBRARY?

One of my favorite library memories is when we first began the book club South Branch Bookies. I am an original member from when Ms. Louise Bankston began the book club way back in 2007. We have been going strong ever since. She made it very special, and we all enjoyed attending the book club on the last Thursday of the month at the South Branch.

Denham Springs-Walker Branch Voted Favorite Library Branch Runner-Up!



The Denham Springs-Walker Branch Library was voted runner-up for "Favorite Library Branch" in Baton Rouge Parents Magazine's 2023 Family Favorites contest.

Located near the border of Livingston Parish's two most populated cities, the Denham Springs-Walker Branch is the largest, most innovative branch in the Livingston Parish Library system.

The branch covers nearly 30,000 square feet and includes a computer lab, study rooms, resting and reading areas, two meeting rooms, virtual reality, 3D printing and scanning, a Career Center, courtyards, two large parking lots, a gaming area, a children's area, and more.

It also boasts the Livingston Parish Library system's largest physical collection, with nearly 110,000 items in circulation, and is the site for the system's annual Comic Con event, which is Livingston Parish's largest celebration of comic books, movies, television, and pop culture.

We want to thank everyone who supported us in this contest!

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS & TEENS

DECEMBER 2023

MAIN BRANCH IN LIVINGSTON

12/4	2:30p	Teen After School	Ages 13-18
12/6	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/6	2:30p	Teen After School	Ages 13-18
12/8	10:30a	Wiggle Worms: Music and Movement	Ages 0-5
12/9	10:30a	A Cajun Christmas Storytime	All Ages
12/11	2:30p	Hot Chocolate Party	Ages 13-18
12/12	5:00p	Teen Advisory Board	Ages 13-18
12/13	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/13	2:30p	Teen After School	Ages 13-18
12/14	5:30p	Canvas & Cocoa	Ages 8-12
12/15	6:00p	Outdoor COMMUNITY Movie - The Polar Express	All Ages
12/16	7:30p	Family Winter Crafts	All Ages
12/18	2:30p	Teen After School	Ages 13-18
12/20	2:30p	Teen After School	Ages 13-18

Closed for Christmas and New Years!
Dec. 24-26 & 31-Jan. 1

DENHAM SPRINGS - WALKER

Pardon our progress! Regular programs will resume promptly upon completion of the Branch's renovation project. Monitor our website calendar and social media pages for program updates.

WATSON

12/6	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/7	5:00p	Teen Advisory Board	Ages 13-18
12/7	5:30p	Teen Hangout	Ages 13-18
12/9	2:00p	A Cajun Christmas Storytime	All Ages
12/13	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/14	5:30p	Christmas Carnival	Ages 3-7
12/15	10:30a	Wiggle Worms: Music and Movement	Ages 0-5
12/21	5:00p	Hot Chocolate Party	Ages 13-18
12/28	5:30p	LEGO Club	Ages 5-12

ALBANY - SPRINGFIELD

12/2	10:30a	Pajama Storytime	Ages 0-8
12/6	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/7	5:30p	Canvas & Cocoa	Ages 8-12
12/9	1:00p	Family Winter Crafts	All Ages
12/13	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5

SOUTH

12/2	1:00p	Family Winter Crafts	All Ages
12/6	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5
12/12	5:30p	Canvas & Cocoa	Ages 8-12
12/13	10:30a	Storytime	Ages 0-5

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 18+

MAIN BRANCH IN LIVINGSTON

12/4	2:00p	Master Gardener: Herb Gardening	Ages 18+
12/7	5:30p	Painted Glass with Candle	Ages 18+
12/7	6:00p	Adult Writers' Club	Ages 18+
12/8	1:00p	Paper Pinecone	Ages 18+
12/16	10:00a	Teacher Takeaway	Ages 18+
12/19	10:30a	Main Branch Book Club	Ages 18+

SOUTH

12/5	10:30a	Joyful Reads Book Club	Ages 18+
12/7	5:30p	Bookies Book Club	Ages 18+
12/14	5:30p	Clothespin Trivets	Ages 18+
12/21	5:30p	Painted Glass with Candle	Ages 18+

Closed December 1st for Staff Training Day!



DENHAM SPRINGS - WALKER

Pardon our progress! Regular programs will resume promptly upon completion of the Branch's renovation project. Monitor our website calendar and social media pages for program updates.

ALBANY - SPRINGFIELD

12/8	1:00p	Clothespin Trivets	Ages 18+
12/12	5:30p	Paper Pinecone	Ages 18+
12/15	1:00p	Painted Glass with Candle	Ages 18+
12/18	10:00a	ASB Book Club	Ages 18+

WATSON

12/5	5:30p	Painted Glass with Candle	Ages 18+
12/12	10:00a	Watson Sunny-Side Up Inspirational Book Club	Ages 18+
12/12	6:00p	Watson Spine Tinglers Book Club	Ages 18+
12/19	5:30p	Clothespin Trivets	Ages 18+

All in-person events in red require pre-registration. To register, please call your preferred branch or visit www.mylpl.info and click on events.

KIDS CORNER

CANVAS & COCOA

Do you enjoy cocoa? What about art? Then you're in luck! Grab a friend and come join us as we have cocoa while creating our very own painted masterpiece! *For ages 8-12.*

AS	Thursday, December 7	5:30 pm
STH	Tuesday, December 12	5:30 pm
MAIN	Thursday, December 14	5:30 pm

CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

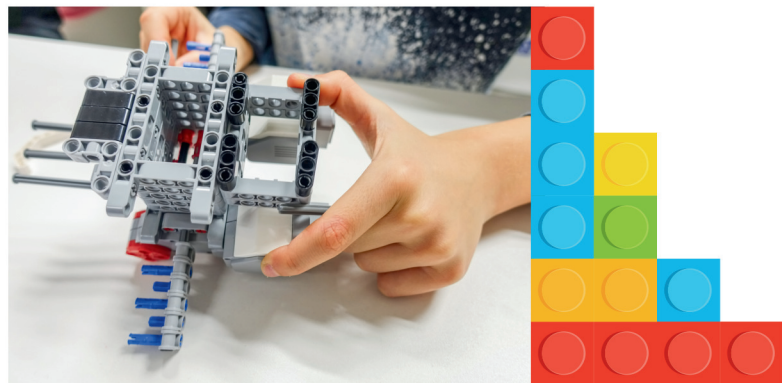
Come one, come all to the library's Christmas carnival! Play holiday-themed games, make a craft, and have lots of fun! Registration is Required. *For ages 3-7.*

WAT	Thursday, December 14	5:30 pm
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LEGO CLUB

Calling all LEGO lovers! Each month we will host LEGO Club with a different theme. LEGO will be provided. *For ages 5-12.*

WAT	Thursday, December 28	5:30 pm
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ALL AGES

A CAJUN CHRISTMAS STORYTIME

It's a very special Cajun Christmas Storytime at the library! Celebrate the holidays with readings of Cajun Night Before Christmas and Cajun Night After Christmas performed by guest voice actress Shirley Tregre. Join us at the library as we hear these heart-warming Louisiana tales read in an authentic Cajun dialect, belt out some of our all-time favorite Christmas carols, and make an Alligator Christmas craft to take home! Registration is Required. *For all ages.*

MAIN	Saturday, December 9	10:30 am
WAT	Saturday, December 9	2:00 pm

FAMILY WINTER CRAFTS

Craft time! Bring the whole family to make fun and easy, self-instructed winter crafts. Refreshments are provided. *For all ages.*

STH	Saturday, December 2	1:00 pm
AS	Saturday, December 9	1:00 pm
MAIN	Saturday, December 16	7:30 pm

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY MOVIE - THE POLAR EXPRESS

The wonder of life never fades for those who believe! On Christmas Eve, a young boy embarks on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express while learning about friendship, bravery, and the spirit of Christmas. All participants will receive a silver bell to ring during the film while supplies last! Popcorn and hot chocolate provided. Please bring your own chairs or blankets to make yourself comfortable. Registration is required. *For all ages.*

MAIN	Friday, December 15	6:00 pm
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TEEN SCENE

HOT CHOCOLATE PARTY

It may be cold outside, but it's nice and warm at the Livingston Parish Library's Hot Chocolate Party! Join us and make some delicious hot chocolate and play some fun holiday games. *For ages 13-18.*

MAIN	Monday, December 11	2:30 pm
WAT	Thursday, December 21	5:00 pm



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Do you want to help out at the library? Join a Teen Advisory Board and make a difference! TAB volunteers suggest programs you would like to see, volunteer at the branch, and help choose books for our young adult sections. Apply at the Library Today! *For ages 13-18.*

WAT	Thursday, December 7	5:00 pm
MAIN	Tuesday, December 12	5:00 pm



TEEN HANGOUT

Join us at Teen Hangout! Bring your friends or come to make new ones where everyone is welcome! Video games, activities, snacks, and more. *For ages 13-18.*

WAT	Thursday, December 7	5:30 pm
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TEEN AFTER SCHOOL

Looking for something to do after school? Join us at the library! Bring your friends or come to make new ones where everyone is welcome! Video games, activities, snacks, and more. *For ages 13-18.*

MAIN	Monday, December 4	2:30 pm
MAIN	Wednesday, December 6	2:30 pm
MAIN	Wednesday, December 13	2:30 pm
MAIN	Monday, December 18	2:30 pm
MAIN	Wednesday, December 20	2:30 pm



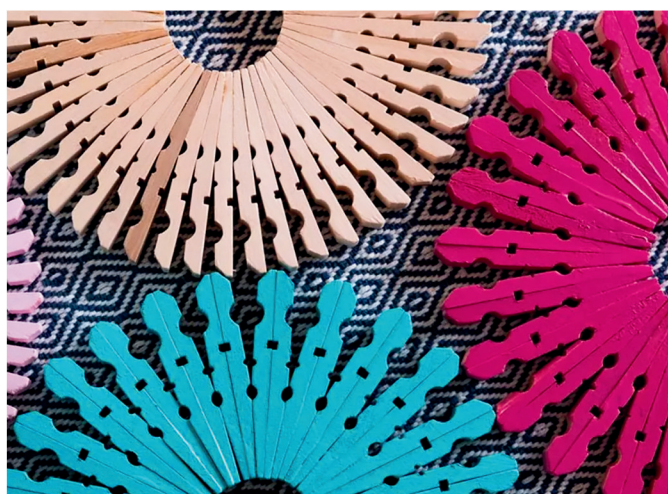
ADULT PROGRAMS

CLOTHESPIN TRIVETS

Join us as we learn to make clothespin trivets with just a few simple supplies! A perfect homemade gift for a loved one. All supplies are provided. Registration is required.

For ages 18+.

AS	Friday, December 8	1:00 pm
STH	Thursday, December 14	5:30 pm
WAT	Tuesday, December 19	5:30 pm



TEACHER TAKEAWAY

Decorations, games, props, toys, crafting supplies and more... We are cleaning out our closets and everything is free to good homes. Public school, private school, and homeschool educators are welcome to take items for educational use. Everything must go! *For ages 18+.*

MAIN Saturday, December 16 10:00 am



ESL FOR BEGINNERS / INTERMEDIATE

Come practice your English with us! This English as a Second Language class is free, and the library will supply all materials. For further information or to sign up, contact Lee Cline at 225-686-4118. Para asistencia en español llame a Ruby Garcia 225-686-4111. Registration is required. Contact Lee Cline or Ruby Garcia to register. *For ages 18+.*



MASTER GARDENER: HERB GARDENING

Are you craving a garden-to-table lifestyle? Looking for a beginner's guide to launching infusions of homegrown flavor into your everyday? Look no further than this presentation on herb gardening presented by the Livingston Parish chapter of the LSU AgCenter's Louisiana Master Gardener Program. *For ages 18+.*

MAIN Monday, December 4 2:00 pm



PAINTED GLASS WITH CANDLE

Finding an excuse to repurpose an everyday item is always fun. We will turn a wine glass into a candle holder with just a little paint. Add this candle holder to your holiday décor for a touch of whimsy. Registration is Required. *For ages 18+.*

WAT Tuesday, December 5 5:30 pm
MAIN Thursday, December 7 5:30 pm
AS Friday, December 15 1:00 pm
STH Thursday, December 21 5:30 pm



PAPER PINECONE

Deck your home with a handcrafted paper pinecone ornament! Join us for some festive crafting and creating. Registration is required. *For ages 18+.*

MAIN Friday, December 8 1:00 pm
AS Tuesday, December 12 5:30 pm





Take & Makes!



YARN REINDEER ORNAMENT

In this fun take and make, you will use craft sticks and yarn to construct a delightful reindeer ornament. Kits are available for pick up at all five branches while supplies last. *For ages 3-12.*



GNOME ORNAMENT

Here is a whimsical little fellow to brighten your holidays. Hang him on the tree or the door, wherever you want to add some cheer. Kits will be available at all library branches while supplies last. *For ages 18+.*



BRANCHES

Main Branch

20390 Iowa Street
Livingston, LA 70754
Phone: (225) 686 - 4160

Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Denham Springs - Walker

8101 US Hwy 190
Denham Springs, LA 70726
Phone: (225) 686 - 4140

Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

South

23477 LA Hwy 444
Livingston, LA 70754
Phone: (225) 686 - 4170

Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Watson

36581 Outback Road
Denham Springs, LA 70706
Phone: (225) 686 - 4180

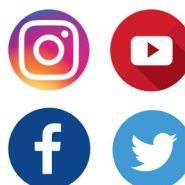
Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Albany - Springfield

26941 LA Hwy 43
Hammond, LA 70403
Phone: (225) 686 - 4130

Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Join us online at www.mylpl.info. Scan this code to be connected instantly.