

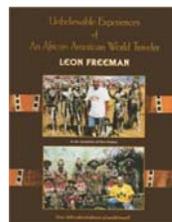
BOOK ENDS

Friends of the (Jackson-Madison County) Library Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Sue Ann Barnes, President - Friends of the Library Board

Fall has finally arrived and our winter programs are ready to entertain you. On December 1 our speaker will be Leon Freeman, a Lane College graduate and world traveler, who has published a book rich in the pictures he has taken during his travels around the world. Those travels started with one to Ghana in western Africa, in 1974 with Operation PUSH and include visits to Europe, Asia, South and Central America. Now retired from teaching, Mr. Freeman has extended his travels to include five continents, sixty-two countries and many islands. He also has collected art and artifacts from many of those countries that he will share with us.



“Unbelievable Experiences of an African American World Traveler”

Then on January 5 Robert Kuehnle, who writes under the pen name of Ashton Lee, will visit with his new book “Queen of Cookbooks” in the Cherry Cola Book Club series with a lively young librarian, Maura Beth, as the leading character. Here is a quote from the KIRKUS REVIEW: Mississippians do their level best to cope with the minor calamities that threaten the opening of their new library.



Newlywed Maura Beth McShay is about to see her dream come true. After years of serving patrons in a cramped facility in Cherico's Shadow Alley, she can barely wait for the unveiling of the new Charles Durden Sparks, Crumpton and Duddney Public Library. And since Councilman Sparks is scheduled to cut the ribbon on the Fourth of July, what better way to celebrate than with a cooking competition featuring regional specialties from across the South and beyond?

Visit the Facebook page for Ashton Lee, Writer to read the rest of the review.

To complete our winter trifecta and our trio of college presidents, FOL will welcome Dr. Logan Hampton, tenth President of Lane College to be our speaker during Black History Month on Thursday, February 2. President Hampton has a doctorate in higher education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, received a master's degree in student personnel services from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA, and a bachelor's degree in biology from Arkansas Tech University. He also is a graduate of the Harvard Institute of Management and Leadership in Education. In his President's Message on Lane College's webpage he expresses the close connection between education and faith. Here is an excerpt:



“In the early days of African American higher education, there was no separation between learning and worship or faith and intellect. Lane College with its unique



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"sacred history and commitment" to prepare lifelong learners and mission to "develop the whole student" affords each of us, faculty, staff and administration, the opportunity to employ our gifts, talents, and knowledge "for the equipping of..." students for their work in building the kingdom of God."

Please come to any or all of these winter FOL programs. As usual they are held in the Program Center of the Jackson Madison County Library at noon on the first Thursday of each month. We provide coffee and dessert and you are welcome to bring your lunch or consider having lunch with a friend downtown after our noon program. As a matter of fact round up a couple of friends and make it a regular social outing with the added opportunity to return or check out materials from the library or even to browse the Continuing Book Sale shelves.

Remember that your library is free and public and staffed with helpful people who care about helping you find what you need. The library is supported by your city and county tax dollars so make good use of your investment. If you want to support your library in a significant way,

become a Friend of the Library, or join the Board of the Friends or of the Library Foundation. It is easy to do, just ask one of the staff to put you in touch with the appropriate person.

"Remember that your library is free and public and staffed with helpful people who care about helping you find what you need."

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

by Dinah Harris

Hello, Friends! It is so nice to have the opportunity to fill you in on all the great things going on here at the library. Since your last newsletter, the library has been bustling with activity. During September, we had a lot of help promoting "Library Card Sign-Up Month." We would like to give special thanks to Councilman Ernest Brooks and all the school librarians in the Jackson-Madison County School System for their assistance. We signed up 660 new people for library cards during September!

We are also partnering with the Jackson-Madison County School System in promotion of "Jackson Reads Millions." The kick-off event was held here at the library with a couple hundred in attendance. We will be working together on more events throughout the school year to promote school kids gathering at the library to read and be read to.

The library is definitely the place to gather in Madison County. We are in a very good place right now. We have a team of passionate people who love helping others. As a result of that, our programming and services keep multiplying, and we are making a difference in lives.

So, what's next? Four projects that are already in the works are as follows:

We are working on our volunteer program to make it more robust. If you are willing to help, please get in touch with Whitney Norwood, our volunteer coordinator. One of our biggest needs is for people that would volunteer to help "shelf read." That means just going to the shelves,

seeing if the books are in order, and correcting them if they are not. You need good alphabetical order skills to work on the fiction and good numbering skills to work on non-fiction.

We will be adding elements to our Maker Space area this winter: a green screen and go-pro recorder, virtual reality equipment, and a 3D printer. "Maker space" is a relatively new term in the library, but the concept is not new. Libraries typically have craft times and may even offer classes to learn how to knit, crochet, etc. Maker spaces take the information the library already offers, show you how to use it, and for certain things even providing the equipment needed to do so.

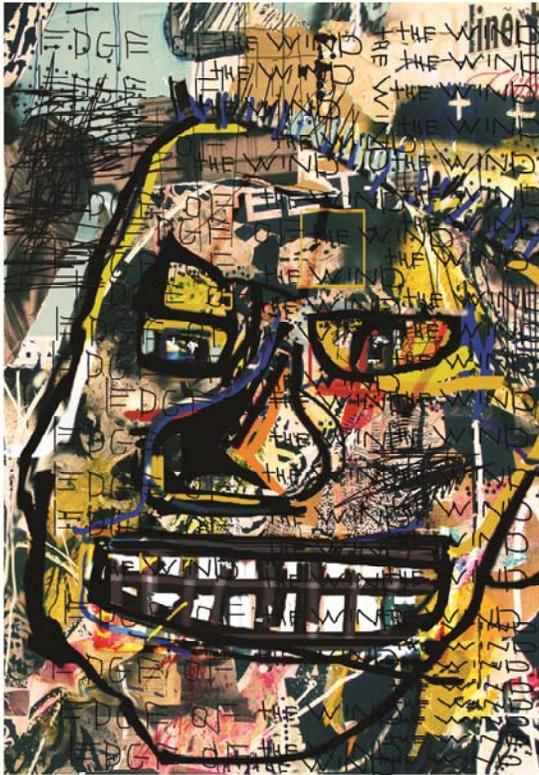
We are looking at ways to make the maximum use of our space so that we can add some areas for collaboration and some for quiet study.

We are placing comment cards throughout the building so you can give us feedback. The comment box will be located near the front door. I will be reading and following up on comments received.

Our Young Adult Librarian and Adult Services Librarian are spending a few hours each week at our North Branch location getting to know the patrons there so they can begin offering more programs at that location.

As you can see, we are a living, changing organization; we are always looking for ways to better serve you. It is our pleasure!

Edge of the Wind



James E. Cherry

PRESS RELEASE FOR JAMES E. CHERRY: *EDGE OF THE WIND*

October marked the release of James E Cherry's latest novel, *Edge of the Wind*, from Stephen F Austin University Press. *Edge of the Wind* centers around protagonist Alexander van der Pool, a 25 year old black man who is off his medication and hearing voices. The primary voice he hears is that of his alter ego, Tobi. Alex has been writing poetry and wants to find out if it is any good. He visits a literature class at a local college to have them evaluated and when they try to put him out, he pulls a gun and takes the class hostage.

This is what fiction writer Valerie Martin has to say about *Edge of the Wind*: "In this touching and wonderful novel, James Cherry follows Flannery O'Conner's surprising dictum and literally holds a gun to his characters' heads. Their earnest and honest engagement in the moral confrontation that follows will tell you everything you need to know about race in America."

Cherry is the author of three volumes of poetry, a collection of short fiction and two novels. He has an MFA in creative writing from the University of Texas at El Paso. His work has been nominated for an NAACP Image Award, a Lillian Smith Book Award and a Next Generation Indie Book Award. A book signing for *Edge of the Wind* will take place at the ComeUnity Cafe in downtown Jackson on December 10th at 1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Copies are available now wherever books are sold. Cherry has been an FOL Board member for six years and is available on the web at: jamesEcherry.com.

NEW A/V MATERIALS

at the Jackson Madison
County Library:

(from Mike Baker,
Media Librarian)

Music CDs

Pure & Simple

by Dolly Parton

Way Down In the Jungle Room

by Elvis Presley

Best of Bowie

by David Bowie

The Voice

by Jordon Smith

The Essential Bob Dylan

by Bob Dylan

Something Beautiful

by Jordan Smith

DVDs

High-Rise

Star Trek Beyond

Bad Moms

Nine Lives

Mr. Church

Audio Books

Changes

by Jim Butcher

Pirate

by Clive Cussler

Hag-Seed

by Margaret Atwood

Small Great Things

by Jodi Picoult

Twelve Days of Christmas

by Debbie Macomber

TIDBITS FROM THE TENNESSEE ROOM

by Jack D. Wood, Tennessee Room Librarian

During the month of November the first floor display cases are featuring a Tennessee Room display entitled, "While the World Was at War. A Jackson Montage, 1914-1919." This is presented in connection with the World War I Symposium held November 4-6 at the First Presbyterian Church, The Casey Jones Museum and the Bemis Historical Museum. The display offers a few historical glimpses of happenings in Jackson during the period of World War I. Featured are photographs and scanned images of documents, letters, and newspaper clippings. Each item or cluster of items reflects on a fragment of life in Jackson "while the world was at war." An example is the Coca Cola bottling plant built on Bolivar St. (Riverside Drive). It was built in 1912, the same year the American flag became a 48 star flag with the addition of two new states. The featured photo was taken about 1916, the year Coca Cola introduced the familiar shaped bottled still in use today. Two years later, the boys and girls in the Jackson High School class of 1918, each raised money to purchase a new flag (the relatively new 48 star flag) for the school. Also featured is an original WWI helmet worn by Liberty Birmingham, grandfather of our current County Court Clerk. The Jackson Sun, like all newspapers throughout the country, announced the cease fire, or armistice on November 11, 1918. The Tennessee Room has an original copy of this paper and a scanned image of the headline is featured in the exhibit.

Related to World War I is a collection recently processed by Assistant Tennessee Room Librarian, Evelyn Keele. The James Cocks WWI collection consists of original letters, post cards, documents, and newspaper clippings relating to the World War I service of Corporal James E. Cocks, Company D, 117th Infantry. Corporal Cocks was killed in October of 1918 and a few of the items are poignant reminders of a family's loss in war. The collection was donated in 2003 by Ann Peebles and originally organized by volunteer, Wanda Lee in a loose-leaf binder. Evelyn Keele reorganized the collection in archival folders, retaining most of Wanda Lee's original arrangement and completed a finding aid for the collection. Scanned images of a few items are featured in the previously mentioned library display.

Sandra Kelly, Tennessee Room volunteer, has completed the index to the Lawrence-Sorenson Funeral records (1936-1989). Volunteer, Starla Dougan is preparing to combine these with our indexes to the records of the Griffin and Smith funeral homes, to form a master funeral home index.

Tennessee Room volunteer, Linda Freeman has been transcribing a Nineteenth Century diary of John D. Bond, a local farmer and brother-in-law of Robert Cartmell, another well-known farmer/diarist of Madison County. This diary covers 1858 –Jan 1862. She is finished a rough transcription and is in the process of proofing it. Also, she has been compiling a glossary of agricultural and nineteenth century terminology used by Mr. Bond in the diary. It is known that there was a diary before this, referenced by Emma Inman Williams in her notes. The whereabouts of this other diary is unknown, but Linda hopes that its location can be discovered and that any other possible Bond diaries may also be discovered and preserved.

Another Tennessee Room volunteer, Mandy Williams is continuing with her abstracting and indexing of the Jackson Fire Department log books. She is currently working in the year 1927. Because of this work, researchers will finally be able to locate information about fires by name, address, or date.

One other very important long term project is the obituary index being created by part time Tennessee Room assistant, Jimmy Wilkins. Starting with the Jackson Sun newspapers of January 1936, he has recently completed references to obituaries through the year 1959 (well over 36, 000 obituaries). Keep in mind that in order to locate these obituaries, he has looked at every page of every newspaper in this time range. In addition, he has from time to time, spotted articles of local historical interest, which we have copied into our Jackson/Madison County vertical files. Our goal is to place these indexes on our public access computers and eventually, after a trial there, online.

TEEN ROOM NEWS

by Jessi Rieger, Young Adult Services Manager

Our library's Young Adult Program has grown this year. Autumn has brought new regular programming, including the YA Café (the Teen book club), the Anime Club, as well as a significant increase in attendance of our established weekly program, the Teen Craft Night, and some new faces at the Teen Council meetings. We've also set a goal of increasing STEM programming for the Young Adults, which has garnered a fair amount of interest from the teens. Our Meet the SPRK Robot program was a lot of fun, and we've had some "pop-up programs" as a result of continued teen interest in our programmable robotic Teen Room mascot. On November 30, we will have a STEM program, called Battle-pults, in which teens will design and build their own mini-catapults, and then compete with their catapults for prizes.

We are looking forward to continued growth and development in 2017, and some Teen Council members have expressed interest in forming committees to develop some specialized card/board/video gaming groups, as well as interacting with members of the teen community for other specific opportunities to meet their needs. All teen programs are free and open to the public, ages 13-18, unless otherwise specified.



"On November 30, we will have a STEM program, called Battle-pults, in which teens will design and build their own mini-catapults, and then compete with their catapults for prizes."

TECH TALK

by Zoe Pride Technology Department Manager

Borrow the Internet!

Jackson-Madison County Library MiFi Wireless HotSpot Lending Program

Take the Internet anywhere you go with our new MiFi wireless hotspot lending program.

Connect up to 15 mobile-enabled devices at one time! Come to the Tech Desk at the Main Library to find out how you can borrow the Internet! Certain restrictions apply.



The Jackson Madison County Library now has "MiFi" devices available for check-out. You can now bring the internet home with you. Each "MiFi" hotspot device runs off of the Verizon 4G cellular networks- so anywhere that Verizon service is available, you will have wireless internet access. With the hotspot you are able to connect up to 15 wirelessly enabled devices. With this service you are able to complete online job applications, stream videos, access your email, or just browse the internet. It's great if you are taking a long road trip across the country or just relaxing at home.

"MiFi" hotspot devices are available at the Main Library from the Tech Desk. Borrowers must be a registered Library patron 18 years old or older, with no fines, fees, or overdue items on their account. Only one hotspot may be checked out at a time per household. Borrowers must sign a lending agreement that includes information about overdue fees and replacement costs.



LIBRARY FOUNDATION NEWS

by Amy Dietrich, Chair

On October 6, over 200 people gathered to “Walk the Line” to the sixth annual Books of Madison County. What a glorious night! The Fairground was decorated with lanterns, pumpkins, hay bales, and fall flowers, a perfect setting for an autumn evening. Guests sipped wine and sampled delicious hors oeuvres as they browsed the silent auction. Items ranging from an Around the World dinner to baskets of Christmas cookies were available for the discerning buyer. The cocktail hour was followed by an elegant Southern meal expertly prepared by Mike and Troy of Elegant Events. Then came our entertainment, the piece de resistance. Kelly Cash Shepard opened with a thrilling rendition of the National Anthem, a perfect introduction for our guest speaker John Carter Cash, author, singer, story teller, and only child of June Carter and Johnny Cash. This man is Tennessee music royalty. He expertly wove stories of his parents with music

inspired by the events of their lives. The audience was treated to a touching narrative that separated the public image from the loving memories of a devoted son. It was truly a magical evening. No one will ever forget Kelly and John’s fiery version of Jackson (Tennessee of course). Kudos to Elaine Christian and the Foundation Board for planning and executing this amazing event.

As my two-year Foundation Chair term comes to a close, I am grateful to all the people who helped make this one of the most enjoyable experiences of my life: Dinah Harris and the amazing library staff, Sue Barnes and Wanda Scanlon, co-chairs of the annual book sale, Elaine Christian, founder and chair of Books of Madison County (years 1-6). Last but not least, the Foundation Board, commonly referred to as the Dream Team! To all of you, thanks for being my support, my team, and my friends.

ADULT SERVICES COLUMN

by Jenci Spradlin

Serving our adult population through programs and events can, on the surface, seem daunting. From millennials to professionals to retirees to stay-at-home moms, each group has unique characteristics and interests that shape the ways they desire to interact and engage with the library. The possibilities are truly endless, offering exciting opportunities to deliver new and varied programs and services to meet each individual where they are in life. While there are indeed distinct differences between these groups, there are overriding things that can connect them all, and that is what makes the library such a unique place.

No matter one’s age or station in life, we can come together out of our shared desire to learn new things, to discover the people, places, and experiences conveyed through storytelling, and to engage with others on issues of common concern. Building programs that appeal both broadly and individually will certainly take time to fully develop, and as we do this, it will also take the feedback and input of those who use the library regularly, as well as those who have never taken advantage of all the benefits the library provides to this community.

Over the coming months, we will try a variety of things to gauge interest and spark ideas, and we invite you to

participate and to share things with me that would be of interest to you. What would you like to learn? Would you be interested in participating in a book club? Do you enjoy doing creative projects and crafts? For example, after hosting a songwriter’s workshop as part of the Books of Madison County Book Festival, we learned that there is a big interest in our hosting similar events to bring this creative community together. For the past few weeks, we’ve offered a time for patrons to relax and unwind through “Color Yourself Calm,” an adult coloring program. We will continue offering this every Tuesday from 11:30 to 12:30 in our Boardroom through December, and will be expanding that program at the North Branch. We also hosted a fun “Elf on the Shelf Planning Party,” helping parents and guardians plan a month’s worth of fun Elf “mischief” for those who enjoy this popular holiday tradition. We’ve also done some passive programming, having themed displays for Banned Books Week and a zombie “invasion” from our collection of zombie books and DVDs, to name a few. With many more things in the planning stages, please reach out to me and share your suggestions, thoughts, and ideas, and help make our adult services program one that will be relevant and valuable to you.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

by Elaine Christian, Chair

At our Library Foundation's annual Books of Madison County Book Festival and Fundraising Dinner on October 6 featuring John Carter Cash, I had the opportunity to speak with him for a few minutes one-on-one. He shared that his favorite room in his home is his personal library, where he has over 3,000 books. He said his father, the late Johnny Cash, similarly had a deep love of the written word. For John, the public library is one of the most important assets a community has because it provides people from all walks of life with the opportunity to learn, to discover, and to explore. I could not agree with him more. Our library truly is a unique place that brings our community together, no matter a person's age, race, gender, religion, or income. It is not only a lasting institution to treasure and to protect, but we must also continuously invest in resources, materials, and technology to meet the ever-changing needs of our community.

Six years ago, it was with this goal in mind that the Library Foundation began this annual event, and each year since, it has continued to grow and exceed our fundraising goals. I have said many times over that the Foundation Board members are a "dream team" in planning and making this special event such as success. It is truly a labor of love and a source of inspiration to see so many give so much of their time out of our shared commitment to our library. The money we raised will allow the Foundation to impact thousands of lives through our patron's interaction with and use of our facilities and

resources. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone who volunteered with and participated in this effort!

Your Library Board of Trustees is equally dedicated to preserving and protecting our library, and as a taxpayer-funded institution, it is our responsibility to ensure that we are operating according to the State Standards for Library Governance placed on libraries throughout Tennessee. We are currently working on our organizational structure to ensure that it is in line with those standards. We have thoroughly reviewed our By-Laws and have established several committees as we work through this process. Glen Vaulx (Chair) and Barbara Johnson will review budget and finance; the planning and policy committee includes Amy Dietrich (Chair) and Greg Jordan; and, Mary Jane McWherter (Chair) and Charles Baldwin are tasked with a review of buildings and grounds.

While this work is not as visible as the events the library hosts, or programs and services offered, it is no less important to the library's future and its ability to serve the residents of Jackson and Madison County. One need but venture inside our Library or North Branch to see those we serve on a daily basis in a myriad of ways to indeed realize and appreciate the truth in what John Carter Cash shared with me that evening: our library is a lasting connection to our past, and an indomitable bridge to our future.

"Our library truly is a unique place that brings our community together, no matter a person's age, race, gender, religion, or income."

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by Dorcas Davis, FOL VP-Membership Chair

Member, Carol Cole, won the tickets to this year's BOOKS OF MADISON COUNTY event to see Keynote Speaker, John Carter Cash, heir to Johnny and June Carter Cash. Congratulations!

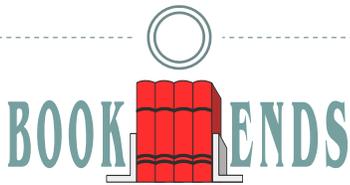


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Thursday Programs • Program Center of JMCL at 433 E. Lafayette St. • Noon

Drinks and desert provided. You are welcome to bring your lunch.

December 1 • Host: Lan Wang

Speaker: Leon Freeman – A World Traveler who will share his experiences, photos and materials with us.

January 5 • Host: Gloria Hester

Speaker: Ashton Lee – A Mississippi author of five books in the Cherry Cola Book Club series. Small town life and the struggles of its librarian in *The Queen of Cook Books*.

February 2 • Host: James Cherry

Speaker: Dr. Logan Hampton, Lane College President joins us for Black History Month.