Volunteer Activists Honor Library Board President

John M. Carnahan, President of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control, has been named a 2006 Volunteer Activist by the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation.

Each year the Foundation honors men and women in the Baton Rouge community who have volunteered their time and services to help local organizations and churches. The award will be presented at the annual Volunteer Activists Luncheon on May 5.

For nearly 30 years, Carnahan has served as a volunteer in a variety of community, educational, and church organizations. He was appointed to the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control in 1983 and was instrumental in securing passage of the first dedicated property tax for library funding in 1986, resulting in the construction of the Jones Creek, Bluebonnet, and Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch libraries. In 1994, Carnahan was elected president of the Library Board of Control and has since provided outstanding leadership. During his tenure, he has led the Board in two successful campaigns for ten-year dedicated property tax propositions to fund library operations and construction of eight new libraries—the Baker, Carver, Central, Delmont Gardens, Scotlandville, Pride-Chaneyville, and Zachary Branch libraries. The Eden Park Branch will open in late 2006.

“John’s service to the East Baton Rouge Parish Library System can be characterized as that of the good steward,” says Library Director Lydia M. Acosta.

“John is a humble and tireless advocate who is steadfast and diligent. His financial acumen and constant attention to detail is tempered by his concern for the needs of the community as a whole.”

Carnahan is a strong advocate for literacy and has emphasized this initiative in his support of public education. As P.T.A. president of Westdale Junior High, 1977-78, he began a Unique Rewards program designed to motivate the students. In 1981, Carnahan secured funding for the establishment of Volunteers in Public Schools and has supported the organization in a variety of ways for 25 years. Recently, he volunteered as a Reading Friend in the VIPS EveryBody Reads program.

Carnahan’s longtime community involvement has included leadership in committees and professional organizations, such as the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau, the Capitol Area United Way, and the First United Methodist Church. Crediting the church as his volunteer renewal place, he received the United Methodist Women Service Award in 2004 from the United Methodist Women Unit at First United Methodist Church.

“John Carnahan is a man who takes care of business in the best sense of the word,” says his pastor, the Reverend Chris Andrews.
Library Receives Grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The East Baton Rouge Parish Library has received a grant of $108,000 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to upgrade and replace library computers which were originally purchased in 1998. The grant will allow the Library to replace computer hardware, such as CPUs, monitors, and keyboards, in 13 library branches.

The grant is part of the foundation’s U.S. Library Program which supports the efforts of public libraries offering communities free access to computers, the Internet, and digital information. Because of advances in technology, software and hardware upgrades are required to ensure that all libraries are able to sustain the initial connectivity investment for their patrons.

“This generous grant will allow the Library to upgrade and supplement existing computers for the public,” said Elizabeth Myers, of the Library’s Computer Division.

Computer access is an increasingly important part of library service to the community. In 2005, East Baton Rouge Parish Library patrons used library computers approximately 1.25 million times to access the library catalog, subscription databases, and the Internet, check email, and use application software such as Microsoft Word and Excel.

Currently, the East Baton Rouge Parish Library offers patrons, free-of-charge, more than 400 public computers, or PCs, with application software and access to the Internet. PC Reservation, which allowing patrons with Library cards to reserve a computer, is offered at all library locations. Visitors without a card may obtain a temporary guest pass or set up a “computer use only” card. Library staff is available to assist with PC Reservation.

In addition to purchasing 72 new PCs, this grant will allow the Library to purchase eight more special computer workstations designed for blind and visually handicapped patrons. This special service is currently available at the Main Library and at the Baker, Bluebonnet Regional, Delmont Gardens, and Carver Branch libraries. New workstations will be placed at the remaining eight branches.

Volunteer Activists Honor Library Board President

As a father, a husband, a church member, a community activist—this man can be counted on to stand for the right things and to do the right things. He is one of the kindest and most cooperative people I know.”

As a 2006 Volunteer Activist, John Carnahan has worked to enhance the development and growth of the Baton Rouge community and to improve the quality of life for all its residents.

Thank you, Mr. Carnahan, for your outstanding service.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Saturday, May 27, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Old Central Library, 13505 Hooper Road

The Library will be closed Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, for an in-service staff training day
Carver Branch Library Receives 2006 Good Growth Award

The Baton Rouge Growth Coalition and the Greater Baton Rouge Business Report hosted the 2006 Good Growth Awards Program on March 14, where the Carver Branch Library, designed by Remson Haley Herpin Architects, was recognized for its location, structural design, and purpose.

“Remson Haley Herpin Architects is proud to have received the 2006 Good Growth Award for the design of Carver Library,” says Trula H. Remson, AIA, Principal, Remson Haley Herpin Architects.

“Each year the Baton Rouge Growth Coalition honors positive, smart, and sustainable development within the Baton Rouge area with this award. We believe that the Carver Library is an excellent example of the type of project that the Growth Coalition seeks to promote.

“We hope that Carver Library will be an inspiration for future redevelopment of the Old South Baton Rouge area and a source of pride for the local residents. We would like to thank the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board and its Director, Mrs. Lydia Acosta, for giving us this opportunity.”

The Good Growth Awards Program recognizes and honors outstanding commercial and residential projects in the greater Baton Rouge area, as well as individual achievements in the real estate development industry, business community, and various civic and government agencies.

How To Protect Your Children’s Health Through Abstinence Education

Gail Dignam, State Coordinator and Director of the Governor’s Program on Abstinence, will speak at an informational program for adults at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library on Monday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m.

The Governor’s Program on Abstinence is designed to reduce out-of-wedlock teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among teens. The goal of the initiative is to provide a statewide grass roots program which will influence the behavior of youth. Parents, health care providers, and educators can help change the culture of the state by promoting the Abstinence-Only Message and the Authentic Abstinence Lifestyle through education, support, and reinforcement.

The following topics will be discussed:

- What is my child’s responsibility?
- How do I guard my children from deadly sexually transmitted diseases?
- What is safe sex?
- What is HPV?
- What is HIV?
- What is my responsibility as a parent?
- What is my child’s responsibility?

For more information, call (225) 274-4480.

ASK-A-LAWYER
Free Legal Advice at the Library
Do you have a legal question? Take advantage of free, individual, legal counseling sessions offered by the Pro Bono Project of the Baton Rouge Bar Association at the River Center Branch Library on Saturday, May 20, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Area attorneys will be available for confidential, one-on-one, 15-minute sessions on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call (225) 389-4967.

Beginning Sewing Class III
The River Center Branch Library will present the Beginning Sewing Class III for adults on Saturday, May 20, at 10:30 a.m. Participants will learn basic, quick sewing techniques.

To register and for more information, call (225) 389-4967.

Family Movies at the Library
Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library
Families are invited to enjoy a free After School Movie showing on Tuesday, May 2 at 5:00 p.m. Popcorn will be served. For the movie title, call (225) 274-4470.

Main Library
A family movie showing of The Incredibles will be held on Friday, May 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Easy Care Gardening with Antique Roses
Rose expert Ida Sharp will give tips on growing antique roses at a program at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch Library on Tuesday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call (225) 658-1540.
Author Spotlight
The Book of Illusions
by Paul Auster

Vermont English Professor David Zimmer is overwhelmed with grief after the death of his wife and two sons in an airplane crash. When he discovers a silent film clip by comedian Hector Mann, who vanished in 1929, Zimmer’s life begins to change. He researches the actor’s similarly tragic life and unravels the mystery of Mann’s re-appearance nearly 60 years later. Mann’s biographer, Alma Grund, coaxes Zimmer to the Mann ranch in New Mexico, where Zimmer and Grund fall in love and the truth about Mann’s life comes to the surface. Auster weaves an intricate and believable tale of the unpredictability of life.

For more about Paul Auster, visit his website at http://www.paulauster.co.uk/ or publisher Henry Holt & Company at http://henryholt.com/.

“Three Feet Under: A Journal of Midlife Crisis”
with Author Christee Atwood

Christee Gabour Atwood, author of Three Feet Under: A Journal of Midlife Crisis, will speak about her new book and writing career at the Main Library on Sunday, May 7, at 3:00 p.m.

In Three Feet Under, Atwood hilariously comments on all the reasons to have a midlife crisis and why to cherish every moment of a life well-lived. Her background includes work in radio and television and as a stand-up comic, disc jockey, humor columnist, magazine editor, and association executive.

For more information, call (225) 231-3745.

Family History from the Roots UP

Learn the three key elements that will help you have a more fruitful ancestral search at a beginning genealogy class at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library on Saturday, May 13, at 10:00 a.m.

Class participants will get hands-on experience with library resources such as indexes and abstracts and will learn what census records can tell us about our family’s past. Genealogy Librarian Cassandra Fedrick will conduct a tour of the Genealogy Department and provide a Getting Started packet designed to help participants develop organized research skills.

To register for the class or for more information, call (225) 763-2283.
Identifying and Caring for Your Doll Collection

Doll specialist Cynthia Orgeron will present a program on caring for dolls at the Main Library on Saturday, May 13, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

A doll collector for more than 33 years, Orgeron is a doll dealer and artist and has performed doll appraisals, evaluations, and conservation work. She received the 1994 United Federation of Doll Clubs Award of Excellence in Preservation and Protection of Dolls, and the Philanthropic Endeavors Through Dolls award in 2004.

For more information, call (225) 231-3746.

Math Buds

The Teen/Young Adult Division is recruiting teens to be Math Buds for children. Teen volunteers will use games and other fun activities to help kids improve math skills and critical thinking. This is not math tutoring!

Teens must attend a training workshop at the Main Library on Friday, May 26, at 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in being a Math Buds volunteer, call the Teen/Young Adult Division at (225) 231-3770.

Book Buds

Book Buds is a reading program that pairs volunteer teens with children in second through fourth grades. Teens help their buddies select books from staff-approved materials, read to them, and serve as reading coaches. To be a Book Bud, teen volunteers must attend a training workshop at the Main Library on Friday, May 26, at 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in being a Book Buds volunteer, call the Teen/Young Adult Division at (225) 231-3770.

Paper Roulé

Learn how to make colorful beaded necklaces and bracelets from rolled strips of paper at a Paper Roulé Workshop at the Main Library on Wednesday, May 31, at 2:00 p.m. To register, call (225) 231-3770.

Out of This World Movie Day

Meet Disney’s Nemo and Dory from the movie Finding Nemo at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library on Thursday, May 4, at 10:30 a.m. Children will listen to a story and visit with characters. Parents, remember to bring your cameras!

To register and for more information, call the Bluebonnet Regional Branch at (225) 763-2260.

View popular Japanese Animation titles at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library on Saturday, May 6, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call (225) 274-4470.
Harvey Rabbit and Friends
Children’s Summer Reading Program 2006

Harvey Rabbit and Friends will perform at libraries this summer, featuring Harvey Rabbit, Cecil the Orangutan, and T-Boy the Alligator, with Tim and Laura Allured. Tim and Laura are the masters behind these hilarious puppets and perform wonderful programs filled with jokes, music, magic, and dance.

May 13 Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry
June 10 Thimble Summer by Elizabeth Enright
July 8 Rabbit Hill by Robert Lawson

To register and for more information, call (225) 262-2660.

Pets on Parade Puppet Show

The Library Ramblers will present Pets on Parade, a puppet show filled with songs, stories, and silliness based on the 2006 Summer Reading Program theme Paws to Read. The Library Ramblers are a group of talented East Baton Rouge Parish Library staff members who perform a puppet show each year in celebration of the Summer Reading Program.

Performances will be held at the following locations:

Main Library Wednesday, May 31 10:30 a.m.
Central Branch Wednesday, June 7 2:30 p.m.
Scotlandville Branch Monday, June 12 10:30 a.m.
Greenwell Springs Road Regional Wednesday, June 21 10:30 a.m.
Carver Branch Wednesday, July 19 10:00 a.m.

For more information, call your participating library.
Storytime gives children an excellent introduction to books and the library, increases their attention spans, and develops their social skills by involving them in stories, poetry, and songs. The Children’s Services staff hopes Storytime will be an enjoyable experience for each child, leading to a lifelong love of books and reading.

You are always welcome to attend Storytime with your child. We offer five different Storytime formats. Since children develop at different rates, you may talk with one of our library staff members to place your child in a younger or older group. Call your local library for more information. Organized groups must reserve a date and time other than those listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Storytime for all ages</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delmont Gardens</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Thursdays, June 22, 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones Creek</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesdays, May 31 &amp; June 7, 14, 21, 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scotlandville</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Thursdays, June 1, 8, 22, 29</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zachary</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Thursdays, June 8, 15, 22, 29</td>
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Family Storytime – for the entire family

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<tr>
<th>Family Storytime – for the entire family</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pride-Chaneyville</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 29</td>
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Board Games

Kids, ages 5 and up, are invited to play strategy board games like chess, checkers, and Battleship at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library on Thursdays in May and June at 2:30 p.m. To register, call (225) 763-2260.

Library Hopscotch

Children will learn and play several different versions of the classic sidewalk game hopscotch at the Carver Branch Library on Tuesday, May 30, at 2:30 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 389-7460.
On View at the Library

Bluebonnet Regional Branch
Calligraphy
Handcrafted designs by members of the Louisiana Calligrapher’s Guild

Zachary Branch Library
Zachary Community Artists
Multi-media paintings by artists in the Zachary area

Student Art Show
Art by students in the Zachary Community School District

International Dolls
Dolls from nations around the world

Tunes at Noon
FREE Concert
with the Baton Rouge Symphony
Baker Branch Library
Tuesday, May 9, at noon