Inside the Writer’s Workshop:
Featuring Ernest J. Gaines

The Library proudly announces the Gala kick-off for the Spring 2009 Big Read: One Book/One Community program, sponsored by The Big Read, East Baton Rouge Parish Library and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber. The event will begin with a soulful reception featuring a flavor-filled menu, continue with a conversation with Ernest Gaines, and follow with a presentation of the classic film based on Gaines’ novel, A Lesson Before Dying. The Gala will be held at the Baton Rouge Community College Magnolia Performing Arts Pavilion, on Thursday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. After the FREE movie screening, audience members will participate in a moderated panel discussion. Admission is free and open to the public.

The Big Read: One Book/One Community is a community-wide reading program where people from all walks of life including middle and high school students are encouraged to read and then discuss important issues raised by one book. The Library and the Chamber have partnered with libraries, school systems, religious and community organizations, and key leaders of industry and commerce to implement this comprehensive program, which will strengthen our community and bring our diverse region together.

Louisiana has an overall literacy rate of 27%, and that includes the Baton Rouge population. This modern classic by Louisiana’s own native son Ernest Gaines is a particularly good choice for our region, long plagued by a history of low-literacy rates, racial injustice and unrest. A Lesson Before Dying’s topics of heroism, personal responsibility, compassion, forgiveness, social justice, and dying with dignity are all subjects which cannot be separated from any exploration of the human experience.

Copies of A Lesson Before Dying, accessible in a variety of formats including print, audio, and movies, are available not only in libraries, but also in classrooms, churches, clubs, community centers, and businesses throughout the nine-parish area. Reading Discussion Groups can meet at libraries, bookstores, coffee shops and cafes, businesses, churches, schools, clubs, and homes. The Big Read: One Book/One Community website, www.ReadOneBook.org, includes a master schedule of events and toolkits for teachers and discussion leaders.

For more information on participating in the program, and for businesses and organizations who wish to partner with the Library and the Chamber, visit www.ReadOneBook.org, or call (225) 231-3710.

Library Director David Farrar and Baton Rouge Mayor-President Kip Holden

What is the NEA?

The National Endowment for the Arts, or NEA, is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts - both new and established - bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the NEA is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

The NEA launched The Big Read to “revitalize the role of literature in American society,” and, “to bring the transformative power of reading into the lives of Americans.” A new study, Reading on the Rise (found at www.NEA.org), shows a marked improvement of the amount of leisure reading by the American public. According to former NEA Chairman Dana Gioia, if cities nationally unite to adopt The Big Read, our community-wide reading program, together we can restore reading to its essential place in American culture. Call me naïve, but I can actually envision an America in which average people talk about To Kill a Mockingbird and The Great Gatsby with the same enthusiasm as they bring to Lost or Desperate Housewives.

Why Choose A Lesson Before Dying?

The Library and our partners throughout the nine-parish region selected A Lesson Before Dying for the Spring 2009 Big Read. Set in our own locale, it includes themes and characters with which our entire population can relate and as such, is perfect to promote a positive dialogue in our very diverse region. Baton Rouge, in addition to being part of the longest running school desegregation suits in American history, has played other important though often overlooked roles in civil rights history—such as the 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott and the sit-in in 1960 by the “Southern Sixteen.” These are appropriate topics for discussion in our community, which is still struggling with issues related to the “Jena 6” and other current racially-charged cases.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have further exacerbated tension between various socio-economic groups, ethnic groups, and even residents of different localities throughout the entire region. Recent criminal cases involving members of local law enforcement, allegations of unfair treatment, as well as the continual Katrina “fallout” make it more important than ever to help members of our community achieve common understanding using the shared experience of reading such a work as A Lesson Before Dying.

For more information, call (225) 231-3710.

Clementine Hunter: A Gallery Talk

As part of The Big Read: One Book/One Community, Thomas Whitehead will give gallery talks on Clementine Hunter at two libraries. Whitehead is an author, lecturer, and was a personal friend of Hunter. He has lectured extensively on Hunter's life and works as well as consulted on documentaries based on her.

Whitehead will discuss the Library's Clementine Hunter collection on Saturday, February 21, at 2:30 p.m. at the Scotlandville Branch. The Collection is housed at the Scotlandville Branch as part of the Black Heritage Collection. On Sunday, February 22, at 2:30 p.m., he will host a gallery talk at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch. He will showcase several of Hunter's paintings from his personal collection that represent various classifications of her work.

For more information, call either participating library.

Cajun Dance Fest

Kick up your heels and pass a good time with the Cajun French Music Association! Members will present a program on Cajun dance in Louisiana. This free program will be held at the Jones Creek Regional Branch on Tuesday, February 17, at 6:30 p.m. All ages are invited to attend.

For more information, call (225) 756-1150.
African-American Heroes: Abraham Lincoln

As a continuation of Dr. Charles Vincent’s African-American Heroes series, and in conjunction with the 2009 Lincoln Bicentennial, a program on Abraham Lincoln will be presented. The documentary Abraham Lincoln: Birth of a New Freedom will be shown in its entirety at the Baker Branch on Saturday, February 7, at 10:00 a.m.

Narrated by Andrew Young, this documentary follows Lincoln’s journey in bringing an end to slavery in the United States as well as Frederick Douglass’s influence on his decisions. Following the film, Dr. Vincent will lead a discussion on Lincoln’s role in African-American freedom, the importance of the Emancipation Proclamation, and the role of African-American troops in the military.

Dr. Vincent is a professor of history at Southern University, a Baker City Council Member, and community activist. The first 20 participants will receive free school supplies, Black history magazines, and other amenities. For more information, call (225) 354-7550.

Leadership Qualities of Abraham Lincoln

In celebration of the 200th birthday of President Abraham Lincoln, Dr. Richard White will discuss “The Leadership Qualities of Abraham Lincoln” at the Main Library on Wednesday, February 4, at 7:00 p.m. Anyone in a leadership position, or who aspires to such a position, can benefit from this discussion of the qualities of Abraham Lincoln, who is considered by many to be the greatest of all United States Presidents.

Dr. White is the Marjory Ourso Excellence in Teaching Professor at Louisiana State University (LSU) where he teaches in the Public Administration Institute. He is the author of political biographies of Theodore Roosevelt, Huey Long, and Will Rogers.

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

Signpost to Freedom: The 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott

The documentary, Signpost to Freedom: The 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott, will be shown at the Scotlandville Branch on Saturday, February 7, at 2:30 p.m. Signpost is a one-hour documentary that recounts the circumstances and events that led to the nation’s first large-scale boycott protesting segregation and then examines its impact on the evolution of grassroots civil rights activism across the country during the early years of America’s Civil Rights Movement.

For more information, call (225) 354-7550.

“Mama always said…”

African-American Genealogy basics

Discover your family history with this free genealogy class! Genealogy librarian, Cassie Fedrick, will go over how sources such as census records, vital records, church records, cemetery records and more can help uncover your past. Learn about the available online and printed resources the library has to offer, like Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest Online. The class will be held at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch on Monday, February 16, at 1:00 p.m.; at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch on Wednesday, February 25, at 10:30 a.m.; and at the Baker Branch on Wednesday, February 25, at 3:30 p.m.

The Bluebonnet Regional Branch holds several thousand items in the Genealogy Collection. The department is open seven days a week, and trained genealogical specialists are available to work with patrons one-on-one. If you can’t make it to the library, try HeritageQuest Online from home. Patrons can use online databases to create a family tree, search for their ancestors, and possibly find missing relatives.

Visit www.ebr.lib.la.us, to learn more about Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest Online databases.

To register and for more information, call any of the participating branches.
Tellin’ Tales

Roscoe Reddix, Jr., dancer, storyteller, and musician will share stories and songs from the African diaspora in an interactive presentation for children, ages 5 to 11. The inspiring program celebrates the ability of each of us to overcome all obstacles on the road to achieving success.

Please call the individual library to register and for more information.

Tuesday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.
River Center Branch, (225) 389-4959

Wednesday, February 11, 10:00 a.m.
Carver Branch, (225) 389-7460

Thursday, February 12, 10:00 a.m.
Eden Park Branch, (225) 231-3260

Saturday, February 14, 10:00 a.m.
Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch, (225) 274-4460

This program was supported in part by funds from the Louisiana State Arts Council and the Louisiana Division of the Arts and by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge through the Decentralized Arts Funding Program.

The Little Plant Doctor

Celebrate Black History month at the Eden Park Branch on Saturday, February 28, at 2:00 p.m. Children, ages 6-11, are invited to listen to the story, The Little Plant Doctor, George Washington Carver. Carver, a plant scientist, created more than three hundred products from peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes. After the story, the kids will color a commemorative Black History Month coloring sheet.

For more information, call (225) 231-3260.

Black Life Through the Lens: The Willie Harris Collection

The Willie Harris Collection is an outstanding collection of photographs depicting African-American life in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from the 1920’s through Willie Harris’ death in 1992. The photos are housed at the Scotlandville Branch as part of the Library’s Black Heritage Collection. Though the Scotlandville Branch contains a small portion of the collection, many more items are located in storage, awaiting discovery and distribution.

Willie Harris, the first chief of police for Southern University A&M College, was an avid, professional photographer who captured every aspect of the world around him. Those images included family life, social organizations, religious ceremonies, collegiate life at Southern University, and much more. After his death in 1992, James Terry, Harris’ neighbor, found and saved over 40,000 photographs that had been bagged and put on the curb for trash pickup. The pictures depict rare glimpses into the life of the historic Scotlandville community and serve as a living testament to African-American culture.

“People can touch and identify with these pictures,” says Terry. “We (African Americans) have a very proud heritage. It is up to one of us to get the ball rolling, and it is up to someone else to keep it going after we are gone.” Members of the community are encouraged to visit the Scotlandville Library and browse through the collection. “The exhibits usually bring a smile to people’s faces because they may see someone that they know in the photographs,” Terry said.

For more information, contact the Scotlandville Branch at (225) 354-1580.

Tween & Teen Big Read Book Scene

As part of The Big Read: One Book/One Community program, tweens and teens are invited to join in on all the great “Lessons of Life.”

Tweens are invited to read Mildred Taylor’s Newbery Award-winning book Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. A round-table discussion will be held at the Zachary Branch on Saturday, February 28, at 2:00 p.m.

Teens can read Ernest Gaines’ A Lesson Before Dying, and discuss the book at the Zachary Branch on Saturday, February 28, at 3:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 658-1870.

More than just an overview of Baton Rouge’s African American community, the Our African-American Legacy webpage, located on the Library’s website at www.ebr.la.us, is designed to provide a place to explore and contribute to the rich legacy of African Americans in the Baton Rouge community through a historical timeline, concise biographies of important individuals and places, an evolving photo gallery, as well as various featured print and audio/visual resources from the Library’s collections. Patrons are asked to submit their own pictures or anecdotes to the Our African American Legacy webpage, today!
African-American Read-In

Community volunteer readers will share their favorite African-American literature during the African-American Read-In at libraries in February. Family and friends are invited to share a reading from a work authored by an African-American. Readers must register in advance by calling their participating library.

The goal of the African-American Read-In, a national celebration which began 20 years ago, is to make literature an important part of Black History month.

Eden Park Branch – Sunday, February 1, 2:30 p.m.
Come and share a passage from your favorite African-American author! Pick from pre-selected materials or bring your own for pre-approval. Each person will get 2 minutes to complete his/her reading.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 231-3260.

Main Library – Saturday, February 14, 2:30 p.m.
Children and their families are invited to participate by reading from the works of an African-American writer. There will be a choice of selections available.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 231-3760.

Scotlandville Branch – Thursday, February 19, 4:00 pm
Children and teens, ages 5 - 18 are encouraged to show off their skills and talents as they read, sing, recite poetry, dance or play an instrument. Two guest speakers have also been invited to give an inspiring message of courage, determination and leadership to the youth.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 354-7560.

Carver Branch – Saturday, February 21, 3:30 p.m.
Come and share a passage from your favorite African-American author! Pick from pre-selected materials or bring your own. Each child will get 2 minutes to complete his/her reading.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 389-7460.

The Library will be closed in observance of Mardi Gras on Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

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The Library will be closed in observance of Mardi Gras on Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

Louisiana’s Native Americans

Author, Margaret Soulé, will present a program on Louisiana Native American cultural periods at the Zachary Branch on Saturday, February 14, at 3:00 p.m. Soulé will discuss in depth the Chitimacha tribe. She has written two books on Louisiana Native Americans: Louisiana’s Native Americans: A Mournful Memory, Written in Blood and Sacred Beliefs of the Chitimacha Indians. Both of these books will be available for sale and signing. The Library will also feature an exhibit of Soulé’s collection of Native American artifacts.
For more information, call (225) 658-1840.

The Library will be closed in observance of Mardi Gras on Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

East Baton Rouge Parish Library

February 2009, The Source 5
Readings in Literature and Culture (RELIC)

Encounter in Louisiana: Confluence and Conflict in Literary Currents

The East Baton Rouge Parish Library will host a six-week series of readings and discussions about Louisiana’s cultural diversity as expressed in literature. The program is free and open to the public. It will be held on Thursdays, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Main Library beginning February 5th and concluding on March 12th.

“Encounter in Louisiana” will be conducted by Dr. Olivia Pass, Professor Emeritus in English at Nicholls State University. The program will use four critically acclaimed novels to acquaint participants with works that illuminate or utilize the experience of encounter among the diverse groups who have inhabited Louisiana over the generations. Texts to be used are: *The Keepers of the House* by Shirley Ann Grau, *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole, and *The Clearing* by Tim Gautreaux.

Thursday, February 5

**Louisiana’s Legacy: A Multicultural Challenge**

Thursday, February 12

**What’s In a Name?**

Thursday, February 19

**A Southern Prescription for Irony**

Thursday, February 26

**The Emergence of Civilization in a South Louisiana Sawmill Town**

Thursday, March 5

**A Confederacy of Dunces in New Orleans of the Sixties**

Thursday, March 12

**Gaines, Grau, Gautreaux and Toole: Reflections and Refractions of Louisiana**

Due to outstanding patron support, the Library has been awarded the Highest Average Attendance Award by LEH. This Readings in Literature and Culture (RELIC) program is jointly sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and the Louisiana Library Association. Funding provided by the State of Louisiana and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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

Coming Soon to the Big Read!

**Teens Debate the Death Penalty**

Thursday, February 5, 6:30 p.m.

West Feliciana Parish Library

**Movie & Panel Discussion**

Thursday, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Ascension Parish Library

**Voices From the Quarters**

Presented by Sister Mary Ellen Doyle

Saturday, March 21, 2:00 p.m.

Main Library

**Baseball in Baton Rouge—The Negro Baseball Leagues**

In conjunction with Southern University’s Annual Throwback Game

Presented by Dr. Michael Bielawa

Saturday, March 28, 11:00 a.m.

Soctlandville Branch

**Ernest Gaine’s World in Plantation Architecture**

Presented by Barbara Bacot

Sunday, March 29, 2:30 p.m.

Main Library

**Hope Behind Bars**

Presented by John “Doc” Robson

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.

Main Library

**Ernest J. Gaines Day**

Saturday, April 18

Pointe Coupee Parish Library

Visit www.ReadOneBook.org, for a complete event listing.
Quick Facts—Library Lore 2008

2008 was a great year of growth, progress, and excitement for you and your East Baton Rouge Parish Library!

• David Farrar was selected as the Library Director for the East Baton Rouge Parish Library System.

• Over 120 events held for the Big Read, with over 130,000 people in attendance, across the nine-parish region.

• Chelsea’s Café and Cox Communications partnered with the Library to bring hot jazz to some cool summer nights.

• Patron use has tripled since Overdrive replaced NetLibrary as a FREE, legal, downloadable source for books, audiobooks and films.

• Eden Park Branch won awards for Interior Design.

• The Library Bookmobile clocked 386 visits to over 600 patrons at 24 different locations.

• Library hired archivist Melissa Eastin to catalog the extensive collection of books, films, maps, and other historic documents found in the Baton Rouge Room, located at the River Center Branch.

• Memorable programs held this year included: 9th Annual Attic Treasures & Collectibles; The Big Read; Looking at Jazz; Master Gardeners’ series, and programs on such topics as tax help, patents, genealogy, grants, legal advice and local history. Popular, award-winning author Tedd Arnold was the featured speaker at the 31st Annual Author/Illustrator event. Teens participated in Potterstock 2008.

• 191 Library-sponsored book clubs held discussions.

• Library staff made big impressions on attendees at Life After 50, Louisiana BizTech Expo, and the Louisiana Book Festival.

Fast Stats At A Glance

• Registered Borrowers = 386,181 people; which comprises 94% of the estimated legal population.

• Circulation = 2,231,974 items were checked out!

• Library Visits = 2,026,722—Lots of wear and tear on our welcome mats!

• Regular Collection = 2,025,245 bar-coded items and microfilm

• Reference Questions = 731,213 total questions were answered—a 5% increase since last year!

• Total Library Sponsored Programs = 4,067

• Total Attendance at Library Sponsored Programs = 94,384

• Storytime Programs = 16,481 children and parents attended 833 storytimes.

• Summer Reading Club participation is up by 7%—perhaps due to the immense popularity of the political themed adult summer reading programming and its sensational Library canvas bag incentive.

• Database Usage = 134,554 database searches were performed—By taking advantage of the FREE database services, East Baton Rouge Parish patrons lead the state in database usage—with school and business resources leading the list. Other favorites included genealogical resources, car repair, and Newsbank database.

• Computers = 454 public computers with free access to the internet.

Look for the Library’s complete Annual Report online at www.ebr.lib.la.us.
Second Verse, Same as the First!

Nashville producer and author, Gabriel Farago, will present his career-launching seminar based on his new book, *Secrets to Success in Country Music*. This free seminar will be held at the Main Library on Sunday, February 1, at 3:00 p.m. Farago will discuss the key issue of how to make your talent work for you. The goal of the seminar is to inform, equip and enable individuals aspiring to a career in the music industry.

While the seminar is targeted primarily at singers, it provides invaluable information and insight for songwriters, musicians, and other industry-oriented hopefuls as well.

Farago came to the United States as a five-year-old Hungarian war refugee. He began working with Nashville legend Harold Bradley in 1978 and had several of his records hit Billboard's charts during the 80's. Expanding into artist development and record production in the early 90's, Farago has continued to help singers and songwriters through his nationally recognized Career Launcher Program.

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

The Library's collection includes a number of titles for the aspiring singer, composer, musician—even producers! Some titles include: *All You Need to Know About the Music Business* by Donald S. Passman; *The Plain and Simple Guide to Music Publishing* by Randall D. Wixen; *The Secrets of Song Writing* by Susan Tucker.

Crochet Workshop

If you have always wanted to learn how to crochet – this is the workshop for you! Ann Wroten Fuffel returns to teach the second in a series of crochet classes. Learn the basics needed to crochet hats, bags, pillows, baby blankets, and more! This free workshop will take place at the Jones Creek Regional Branch on Thursday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m.

For more information and to register, call (225) 756-1150.

Computer Classes at the library

In addition to all of the regularly scheduled computer classes at the Main Library, the Bluebonnet Regional Branch will offer a variety of FREE computer classes for adults. For more information and to register, call (225) 763-2250.

**Introduction to Microsoft Publisher**
Saturday, February 7, 10:00 a.m.
*Learn how to make a flyer, newsletter, pamphlet, and many other documents by using Microsoft Publisher.*

**Beginning Microsoft Word**
Thursday, February 12, 10:00 a.m.
*Learn how to edit documents using Microsoft Word. Participants will learn how to format page margins, change font types and size, insert graphics, and use spell check.*

**Intermediate Microsoft Word**
Thursday, February 19, 10:00 a.m.
*Participants will learn how to separate text into columns, create and modify a table, sort items in a table, and insert headers and footers.*

**Introduction to Gmail**
Thursday, February 26, 10:00 a.m.
*Learn how to create an email account with Google. Participants will also learn the basics of email including how to receive email, compose an email, and send an attachment.*
Ga-Ga for Games

Bring a friend and try your hand at Halo 3 on the Library's Xbox 360. Let the fun begin at the Baker Branch on Thursday, February 12, 6:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided! Or, play Super Smash Bros Brawl on the Library's Wii. Get your “Mario on” at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch on Saturday, February 14, at 2:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, call either participating library.

Mardi Gras Madness

Create your own Fat Tuesday finery! The Library will supply all the materials necessary to make a unique Mardi Gras necklace.

Make Mardi Gras magic at the Baker Branch Wednesday, February 18, at 4:00 p.m. and at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch on Thursday, February 19, at 4:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, call either participating library.

Anime Action @ the Library

Can you draw? Can you flip pages in a notebook? Teens can meet new friends, all while watching cool, new Anime films. Later, teens will learn how to create basic animation by constructing an animated flip book. The “Ani-mation” begins at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28 at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch.

To register and for more information, call (225) 274-4470.

Lonely Hearts Soup Love

Teens, grab your Valentine and head to the Main Library for a special Valentine's Day Concert. A Soup Named Stew (ASNS) will play LIVE at the Main Library, on Saturday, February 14, at 2:00 p.m.

A Soup Named Stew's style is a blend of pop punk, pop rock, alternative, hip-hop, country, jazz, and stand-up comedy, but the band has been recognized as the founder of humor-core. The band regularly weaves abnormal and humorously altered covers into its sets such as The Billy Madison Way, The Proclaimers I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles), Ogden Edsels Dead Puppies, and the Diesel Driving Academy commercial jingle.

ASNS merchandise and CDs will be available for purchase after the show. The concert is free and open to all ages. For more information, call (225) 231-3770.

ACT Test for Students

The East Baton Rouge Parish Library will offer a free full-length Practice Test for the ACT, administered by the Princeton Review, one of the premier suppliers of college preparatory material. Each Practice Test will last several hours and is divided into sections, as is the real test. Students are required to pre-register for the Practice Tests.

The Practice Test will be on Saturday, February 7, at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch at 10:0 a.m. and at the Scotlandville Branch at 1:00 p.m. An additional test will be offered on Saturday, February 14, at the Zachary Branch and the Main Library, both beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Students should arrive 15 minutes early. If seats are still available at five minutes after the hour, they will be given to walk-ins at first come, first served. Students should bring two sharpened pencils and a calculator to the Practice Test.

Staff from the Princeton Review will hold a “Scores Back” session at libraries following the test. The “Scores Back” session is a free seminar that will help parents and students navigate the important road through testing and college admissions. Topics include an in-depth look at practice tests, an overview of the ACT and SAT, and the student’s high school timeline. Students will also receive their scores from the test.

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<th>Practice Test on Saturday, February 7</th>
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Due to the limited number of seats available, students are required to register for the ACT Practice Tests and Review Sessions. To register and for additional information, visit www.princetonreview.com or call your participating library. If you can’t make it to the test, don’t sweat it. Electronic versions of the ACT and SAT reside on the Library’s online databases. Visit EBSCO or Learning Express to take a practice test from the comfort of home, today!
**Recycle Revolution**

Go “Green” at the Library! Children, ages 4 and up, will learn all about recycling and have the opportunity to check out a recycling truck up close on Saturday, February 7, at 2:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring a medium sized box to create their own personalized recycling bin. Learn to recycle and re-use at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch.

To register and for more information, call (225) 763-2260.

**The Year of the Ox**

Celebrate the Chinese New Year at the Baker Branch! Children, ages 7 to 11, will listen to a story about the Chinese New Year and then create a dancing lion puppet. The fun starts on Thursday, February 3, at 4:30 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 778-5960.

**Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!**

Celebrate Read-Across-America at the Baker Branch with a very special program honoring Dr. Seuss's birthday on Saturday, February 28, at 11:00 a.m. Children, ages 6 to 11, will listen to class Dr. Seuss stories; play Seuss inspired games, and create their very own “Cat in the Hat” hat to take home.

To register and for more information, call (225) 778-5960.

**Ladybugs Valentines**

Brian Reily, a student of entomology, will give a short presentation on ladybugs. Following the presentation, participants will create their own lovable ladybug to take home.

This program, open to children, ages 5 to 11, will be held at the Carver Branch on Thursday, February 12, at 4:40 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 389-7460.

**Silly, Willy, Nilly Storytime**

Get silly @ the library! Children, ages 3 and up, are invited to attend a laugh-out-loud, fun storytime at the Main Library on Saturday, February 21, at 10:30 a.m. Participants will listen to funny stories and then create a silly paper bag puppet.

To register and for more information, call (225) 231-3760.

**Living Lincoln’s Legacy: A Bicentennial Event**

Kids can visit the Delmont Gardens Branch on Thursday, February 12, at 5:00 p.m. to commemorate the Bicentennial of Lincoln's Legacy. Children, ages 6 and up, will listen to a story about Abraham Lincoln and then participate in fun activities, including building a “Lincoln” log cabin, drawing pictures of Lincoln, and much more.

To register and for more information, call (225) 354-7060.

**Brush ‘Em Up!**

Dr. Charles Morrison, a practicing dentist at the Pride-Chaneyville Community Center at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch on Wednesday, February 18, at 11:30 a.m. Morrison will present a program about the basics of good dental care to children, ages 3 and up. Books on dental care will be available for children to check-out.

To register and for more information, call (225) 658-1560.

**Tae Kwon Do Demonstration**

Students from Joel Neely’s Tae Kwon Do Plus will present Tae Kwon Do demonstrations at the Jones Creek Regional Branch on Saturday, February 14. They will demonstrate on levels for children, ages 4 to 11.

Fiction and non-fiction books on martial arts will be available for children to check-out. The event “kicks off” at 2:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 756-1160.
Storytime at the 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 six 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.

Lapsit – for babies through crawling
Bluebonnet Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17, and March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 10:30 a.m.
Greenwell Springs Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 10:30 a.m.
Jones Creek Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 10:30 a.m.
Main Library Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 10:30 a.m.

Toddler Time – for walking children through two years old
Baker Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:00 a.m.
Bluebonnet Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:30 a.m.
Central Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:00 a.m.
Greenwell Springs Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Jones Creek Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Main Library Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Pride-Chaneyville Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 11:00 a.m.
Zachary Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Storytime – for children three to five years old
Baker Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:30 a.m.
Bluebonnet Mondays, February 2, 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 10:30 a.m.
Carver Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:00 a.m.
Central Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 10:00 a.m.
Delmont Gardens Mondays, February 9, 23 and March 9, 23 10:00 a.m.
Eden Park Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:00 a.m.
Greenwell Springs Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:00 a.m.
Jones Creek Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Main Library Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Pride-Chaneyville Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 11:00 a.m.
Zachary Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 10:00 a.m.

Family Storytime – for all ages
Eden Park Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 5:00 p.m.
Main Library Saturday, February 28 2:30 p.m.

Spanish Storytime – for ages 3 and up
Bluebonnet Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 10:30 a.m.

Night Storytime
Carver Tuesday, February 3, 10, 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 7:00 p.m.
Greenwell Springs Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26 7:00 p.m.
Jones Creek Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and 4, 11, 18, 25 7:00 p.m.

Snacktime 101 @ the Creek
Mmmm, good! Let’s make a tasty snack at the Jones Creek Regional Branch! Children, ages 5 to 8, will learn how to make their own healthy snacks including Popcorn-Banana Munch and Strawberry Mice. The tasty treats will flow on Saturday, February 28, at 2:30 p.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 756-1160.

Valentine’s Day Wreath
Will you be my valentine? Children, ages 6 to 10, will listen to the story, If You’ll Be My Valentine by Cynthia Rylant at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch on Thursday, February 12, at 4:00 p.m. Following the story, participants will create a special Valentine’s Day craft.

To register and for more information, call (225) 658-1560.

The Big Hug Storytime
Children, ages 4 to 8, will listen to the story, How About a Hug? by Nancy Carlson at the Jones Creek Regional Branch on Saturday, February 7, at 2:30 p.m. Following the story, participants will create a huggable puppet.

To register and for more information, call (225) 756-1160.

February 2009, The Source 11
Bluebonnet Regional Branch
Sugarcane: the Largest Cash Crop in Louisiana
See the sugarcane memorabilia of Edna Jordan Smith, local Genealogist.

Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch
Harvest Collection of Jeanne Brown
The Harvest Collection displays warm earth tones representing life in pastel and watercolor.

Civil Rights Memorabilia
View the artifacts from the local Civil Rights Movement, courtesy of the Odell S. Williams Now and Then Museum of African-American History.

Eden Park Branch
Picturing America
Picturing America introduces citizens of every age to our nation’s history and culture by bringing great works of American art into classrooms and libraries. This month’s exhibit features the American Civil Rights Movement.

Jones Creek Regional Branch
St. Martha’s Senior Art Colony
Members of the St. Martha’s Senior Art Colony will exhibit their works of art, including still life, nature paintings, and portraits.

Intarsia Wood Art
Richard Burns displays his unique inlay wood art and plaques.

Recycled Reads • 13505 Hooper Road
Saturday, February 28, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.