



»» NEWSLETTER ««

# FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY

**Winnsboro Branch**  
 705 Prairie Street  
 Winnsboro, LA 71295

**Wisner Branch**  
 129 Fort Scott Street  
 Wisner, LA 71378



**PRAIRIE STREET** in front of Franklin Parish Library's newly renovated storefront was covered by a thin sheet of ice Monday afternoon. Dangerously cold temperatures occurred in Northeast Louisiana through Wednesday with windchills approaching near zero. Low temperatures along with icy conditions closed parish schools, some businesses and the library. (Sun photo by Joe Curtis)

## Library visits increase 20 percent during 2023

By Joe Curtis  
 joecurtis@franklinsun.com

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with new historically-compatible colors to the front.

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See **LIBRARY**  
 Page 19A

FRANKLIN SUN JANUARY 17, 2024

## LIBRARY NEWS & INFORMATION

### »» GENEALOGY SPOTLIGHT

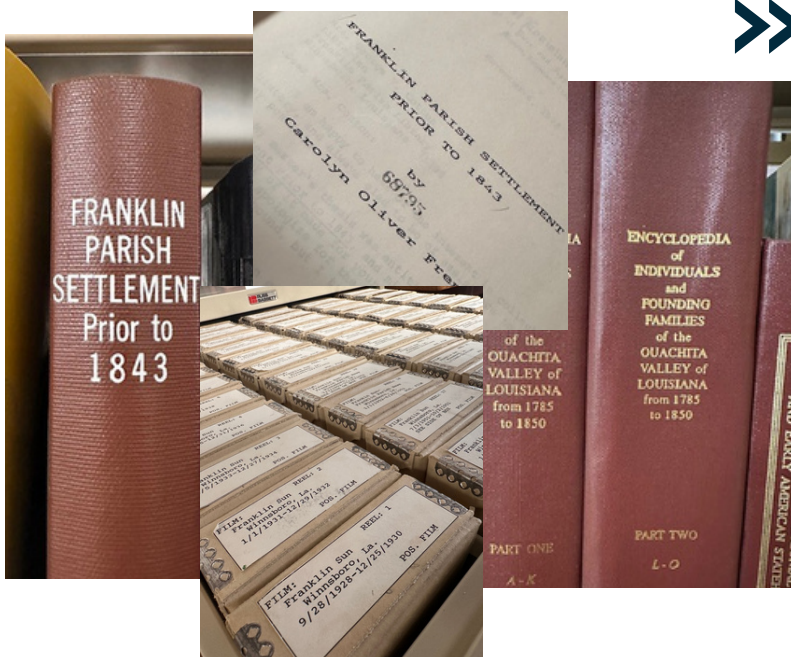
Did you know we have a genealogy department full of Franklin Parish history?

Starting in March, there will be a designated staff member working in the genealogy department 5 days a month to help you research family history, view microfilm from editions of the Franklin Sun as far back as 1928, and find documents that may help you in answering family or Franklin Parish historical queries. The items in our collection may not be removed from the building, but you're able to sit down in the reading room with them while you're here.

Our collection is always growing thanks to items donated by members of our community throughout the years.

**Our front door is officially open! You can now come in the front or the back door to visit us.**

Check out books, audiobook cds, DVDs, read newspapers or magazines, research family history, or get help setting up your Cloud Library to access digital audiobooks and ebooks on your own device. Our public computers, printers, copy machine, and Wi-Fi services are also available.



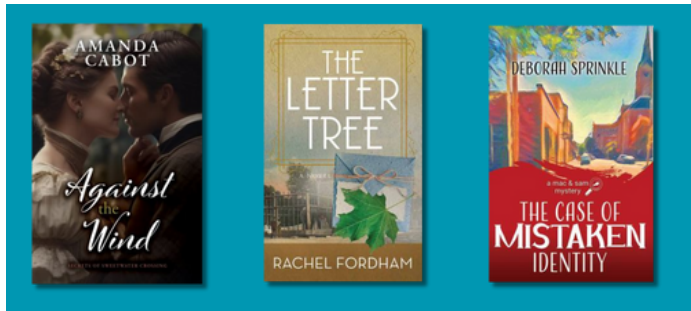
# NEW TO CIRCULATION

SEE SOMETHING THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU?

Click on the cover image to go directly to the online card catalog to find out more or reserve it today!



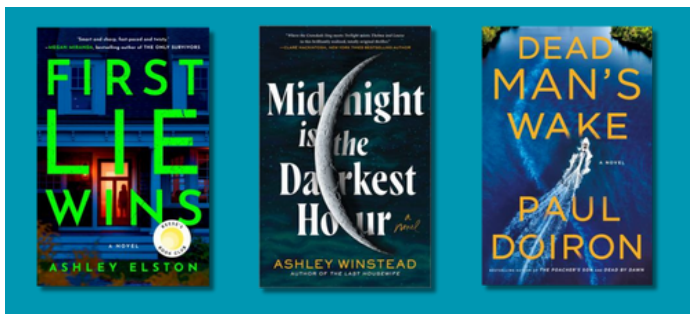
## CHRISTIAN FICTION



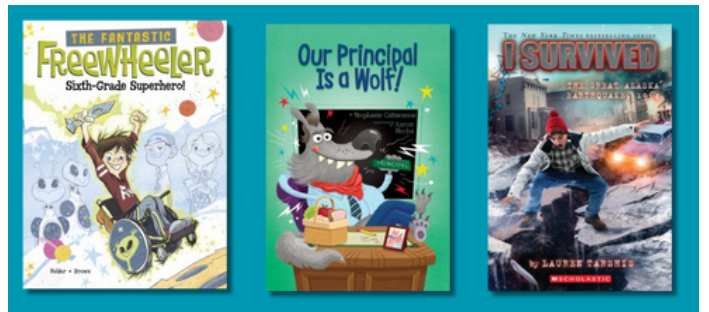
## WESTERN FICTION



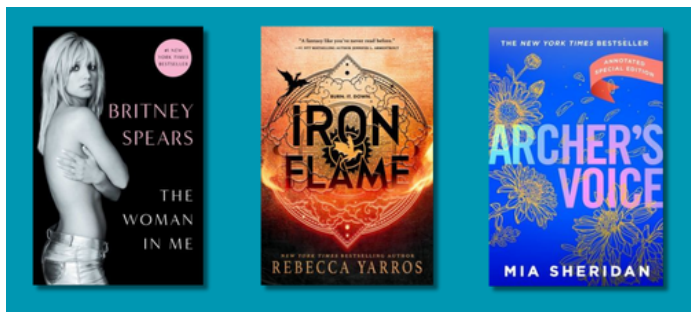
## MYSTERY/SUSPENSE



## CHILDREN'S FICTION



## OTHER ADDITIONS



## YOUNG ADULT FICTION



These are obviously not all of the new titles added this month.

Want to see what else we have on the shelves? Search our digital card catalog. Scan the QR code to the right or go to [franklinparishlibrary.org](http://franklinparishlibrary.org) and click on the card catalog.



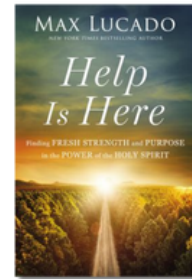
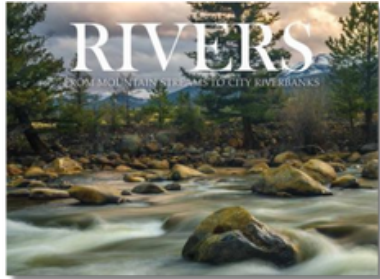
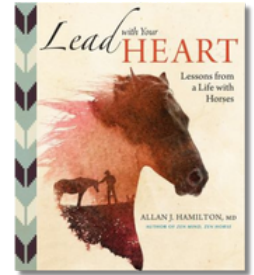
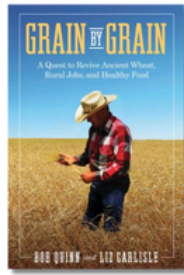
# FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY

[franklinparishlibrary.org](http://franklinparishlibrary.org)



## ➤➤➤ DONATED AS MEMORIALS OR IN HONOR OF LOVED ONES, EVENTS, OR SPECIAL MOMENTS

*"Keep all special thoughts and memories for lifetimes to come. Share these keepsakes with others to inspire hope and build from the past, which can bridge to the future." Mattie Stepanek*



If you'd like to purchase a memorial or book in honor of a loved one, friend, pet, or celebrated moment, we have a selection of books that may be purchased from or you can request a specific item.

Give us a call or come see us at the Winnsboro branch (318) 435-4336



## ➤➤➤ JANUARY WALL OF HEROES SPOTLIGHT



Wesley David Taylor  
Army-Sergeant  
WWI



Kendrick E. Short  
Army - Specialist  
Operation Iraqi Freedom



Gertrude R. Baxter  
Women's Army Corps /  
Air Force Sergeant

*Did you or a loved one serve in our armed forces during a war, conflict, or battle? To be featured on our permanent Wall of Heroes, stop by to see us or give us a call for more information. We appreciate our local Veterans & all they've sacrificed for us.*

# FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY

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# UPCOMING VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

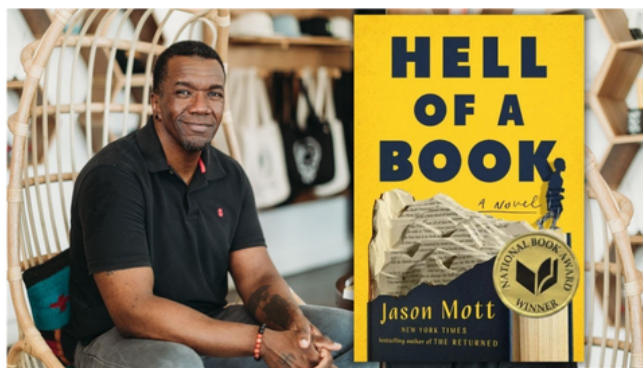
**FEBRUARY 8, 7 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Tessa Bailey  
[Register Here](#)



**FEBRUARY 20, 3 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Jason Mott  
[Register Here](#)



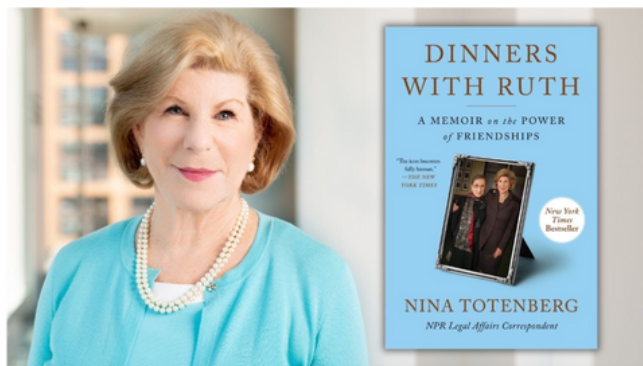
**FEBRUARY 28, 1 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Kim Scott  
[Register Here](#)



**MARCH 6, 3 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Nina Totenberg  
[Register Here](#)



# FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY

[franklinparishlibrary.org](http://franklinparishlibrary.org)



# ➤➤➤ UPCOMING VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

**MARCH 14, 3 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Christopher Paolini  
[Register Here](#)



**MARCH 21, 6 PM**

Virtual Author Talk: Madeline Miller  
[Register Here](#)



You can see all of our upcoming author talks and watch videos from past author talks on our website:

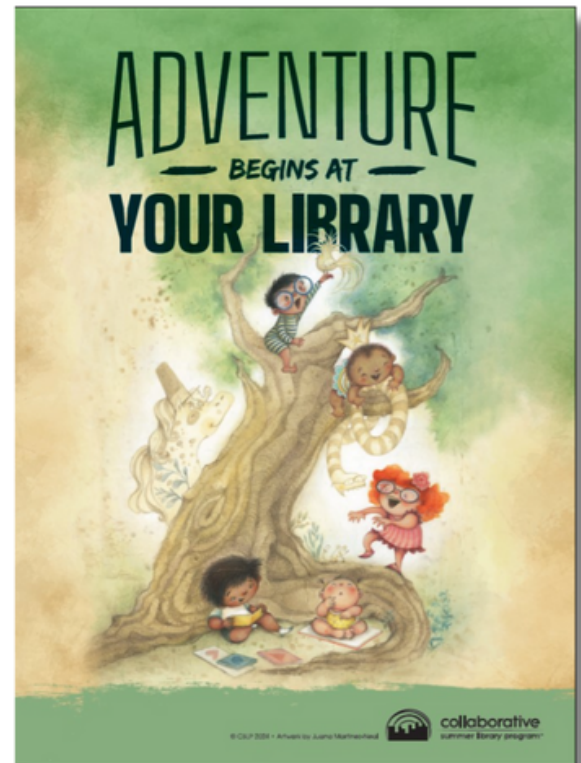
<https://libraryc.org/franklinparishlibrary>

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS ◀◀◀

OUR NEXT STORYWALK IS COMING SOON!

SUMMER READING PLANNING IS ALREADY UNDERWAY FOR THIS SUMMER!

OPEN HOUSE EVENT COMING SOON TO CELEBRATE THE COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION!



# FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY

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705 Prairie Street

Winnsboro, LA 71295

Open: Monday through Friday

Wisner Branch

129 Fort Scott Street

Wisner, LA 71378

Open: Tuesday & Thursday



# DO YOU HAVE ANY YEARBOOKS YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE?

Do you have any old yearbooks from a Franklin Parish school, past or present, that you could donate to the library?

We'd like to build upon our Franklin Parish Schools collection in our genealogy room. We'd love to include them in our collection so they can be shared for years to come.

## Our current collection:

- **Crowville School:**  
1964, 1977, 1978, 1979, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- **Franklin Academy:**  
1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- **Fort Necessity School:**  
1977, 1994, 2000, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
- **Gilbert School:**  
2012, 2013, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
- **Winnsboro Upper Elementary:**  
1973-74
- **Winnsboro Jr. High:**  
1975, 1976, 1977
- **Winnsboro High School:**  
1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1963, 1964, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1986, 1987
- **Wisner High School:**  
Seniors: 1987  
1946, 1971, 1972, 1977, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986

**We'd like to thank everyone who has donated so far! We're excited to continue growing this portion of our Franklin Parish Collection.**

# FPL

*in the news*

Wednesday,  
December 27, 2023

## The Franklin Sun Community

Page  
7A



ELIZABETH VIDOS, known as "Lady Chops", entertains at Franklin Parish Library. (Photos by Rebecca Beach)



"LADY CHOPS" gets children involved in making music.

### 'Lady Chops' returns for the holidays

Children of all ages made music with "Lady Chops" when she returned to Franklin Parish Library in Winnsboro for an encore presentation during the Christmas holidays.

"Lady Chops", percussionist Elizabeth Vidos, first joined the library for an event during the Summer Reading Program.

Children present for the recent program, as in the summer event, were given the chance to get their hands on a variety of percussion instruments. They played vest frotters (rubboards), spoons, maracas and various drums.

The Franklin Parish Library's main branch, which has recently been undergoing a remodeling and building restoration project, is located at 705 Prairie in downtown Winnsboro and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Wisner Branch is located at 129 Fort St. in Wisner is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 to 5 p.m., closing for lunch on those days from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The Franklin Parish Library's stated mission is, in part, "to foster a life-long love of reading in all its patrons, facilitate research and study, to ensure equal access and service to all, and to enrich the parish by providing opportunities for information, education, culture, recreation, inspirations, and imagination."



CHILDREN TRY their hands at using vest frotters, also known as rubboards.



PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS of all shapes and sizes are explored at The Franklin Parish Library.



SOUND AND rhythm are discussed with "Lady Chops" at the Franklin Parish Library.



**YOUNG READERS** six-year-old Kent Philips, right, and two-year-old Kai Philips check out the story posted along Prairie Street as part of StoryWalk sponsored by Franklin Parish Library, Winnsboro Main Street and Winnsboro-Franklin Chamber of Commerce. Joining them for the reading adventure is their sitter, Eliza Maughon. Kent and Kai are the children of local business owner Luke Philips. There are a few days left to take advantage of the experience which runs until the end of December. (Sun photos by Monica Huff)



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See **LIBRARY**  
Page 19A

Continued from Page 1A

### LIBRARY

stalled with plate windows on the lower level and transom windows above new canopies.

Meanwhile, 2022 statewide numbers were recently published in "Public Libraries in Louisiana: Statistical Report" and also showed an increase. The state's public libraries recorded more than nine million visits and patrons checked out items more than 46 million times, making double-digit growth over the prior year.

"Public libraries are so important to the communities they serve," said Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser. "The proof is there in black and white when you

look at these stats. Our libraries are true community hubs with so many different and invaluable services. A vibrant state needs vibrant public libraries, and we have that here in Louisiana."

In-person visits to the 334 public library locations and 29 bookmobiles across the state dropped steeply during the pandemic when stay-at-home orders were in place. However, visits have steadily increased since 2020.

Additionally, Franklin Parish Library showed a 4.01 percent increase in circulation from the prior year. Circula-

tion is anything a patron borrows from the facility such as books or DVDs, according to Shirley.

2023 circulation numbers totaled 49,252 compared to 2022's 47,353.

Topping the books that local patrons checked out were "Where The Crawdad's Sing" by Delia Owens, "I Can Be Anything" by Neville Astley, "Dog Man: A Tale Of Two Kitties" by Dav Pilkey and "Throne of Glass" by Sarah J. Maas.

Use of electronic resources have also continued to grow statewide and at home. Public computer use increased by 7.75 percent or 2,184 in Franklin Parish Library. In 2022, computers were used 2,027 times.

Wi-Fi use increased by nearly 20 percent at the local library to 1,477.

Throughout Louisiana, patrons used public library computers 1.8 million times and logged on to Wi-Fi 4.7 million times in 2022.

"These figures clearly show the public's enthusiasm for all the services libraries provide, especially when you consider that Louisiana's population is about 4.5 million people," said State Librarian Meg Placke. "We say it all the time: the modern library is more than just a place to check out books and the best part is, these services are offered free of charge."

There were 2.4 million library card holders in Louisiana, almost 54 percent of the

state, according to the 2022 report. Librarians answered 2.5 million reference questions in person and online.

Some 2.1 million people attended almost 75,000 in-person and virtual events hosted by public libraries. Electronic databases were accessed almost 26 million times by library card holders.

More than 72,000 items were borrowed by patrons from their home library from another library through the Interlibrary Loan System.

**THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE FRANKLIN SUN FOR THESE GREAT ARTICLES!**

You can read these articles & more on their website:

<https://www.hannapub.com/franklinsun/>



# Franklin Library Opening Slated During November; Site Selected

A 15-year fight for a parish library will be temporarily halted this month with the establishment of the Franklin parish demonstration library in Winnsboro with a branch in Wisner and bookmobile service throughout the parish. Following the one year's trial period a small millage must be voted to support the "institution of learning."

Miss Eunice Heitman, Franklin librarian, and Miss Sarah I. Jones, state library field representative, said in an interview at The Sun office Wednesday afternoon that "books for shipment to Franklin are being readied."

The library will be located just south of the Winnsboro Trades school on Landis street in a house with 900 square feet of floor space, the library officials explained. Repair and shelving will be completed in two weeks and the establishment opened during November.

A temporary bookmobile will be used at the opening of the new library; however, a new vehicle will be purchased by the state library commission and sent to Franklin in January. The temporary mobile library will house 600 books while the new bookmobile will have a capacity of 1,500 books and periodicals.

Ten thousand books and periodicals are scheduled for shipment to the Franklin demonstration library, valued at more than \$23,000, the field representative said.

Plans are being made by Wisner for a branch library "to serve the needs of the village and surrounding territory." The central office and Winnsboro branch will be housed in the same building here. The bookmobile will serve every outlying community and all residents of the parish are urged to use the branch or the central office when necessary.

The state is to spend approximately \$49,000 on the new establishment with Franklin contributing \$3,000, \$2,500 provided by the police jury and \$2,500 by individual donations—a move engineered by a library committee headed by Mrs. C. E. Adams of Winnsboro.

A circular driveway in front of the building will be constructed by

## Franklin Library Set For Nov. Opening; Committee to Meet

Eight thousand and three hundred books will arrive in Franklin Friday, November 24 for the parish demonstration library with a sufficient number later to swell the total of 10,000, Miss Eunice Heitman, librarian, said in an interview this morning. The establishment will be opened to the general public the last week in this month.

Franklin's police jury, meeting in session today, appointed a five-member library board to direct activities of the \$45,000 plant. In addition to John T. O'Brien, jury president and ex-officio member of the board, the group will include: Jim C. Buie, Fort Necessity; J. E. Temple, Wisner; W. Y. Cuney, Gilbert; George Baskin, Baskin, and Mrs. C. R. Adams, Winnsboro. The committee will convene Monday night at 7:30 o'clock in the municipal building here.

Mrs. Adams was chairman of a parishwide drive to secure funds for financing the year's demonstration library. The police jury contributed \$2,500 and the general public, through the efforts of a committee, gave more than \$1,500.

The central library will be located south of the Winnsboro Trade school on Landis street in a structure containing 900 square feet. A circular drive will be constructed by the police jury and repair to the building, readying it for the opening, is in progress. According to Miss Heitman, furniture for the library will arrive next week.

Franklin's library will have one branch—in Wisner—and a bookmobile which will serve patrons throughout every community in the parish. Citizens in the communities will also have access to the central structure and the

## Parish Library Opening Slated Monday, Dec. 11

Franklin's long-sought library will be opened to the public Monday, December 11.

Wood H. Thompson, Monroe attorney and former resident of Winnsboro, will deliver the dedicatory address Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Princess theatre here before an expected capacity audience. Mrs. C. E. Adams, chairman of the parishwide library movement, said today. The general public is extended an invitation to be present for the ceremonies.

Mrs. Adams pointed out that state officials, librarians from surrounding parishes and citizens of Franklin are expected to attend the "open house."

Repair and construction work on the library building, located west of the Winnsboro Trades school, will be completed Friday. Parish and town workmen are busily engaged making the driveway appealing making the "beautifying" the surrounding area to the building.

Books for the \$45,000 parishwide project, a movement which began

**THE FRANKLIN SUN HAS BEEN SHARING NEWS ABOUT THE FRANKLIN PARISH LIBRARY SINCE 1950.**

## Letter To the Editor . . .

. . . No doubt success of the (library) demonstration in Franklin owes much to the excellent coverage you have given it, both in general articles and editorials, especially just before the tax election. The paper is a real community builder . . .

Sincerely yours,  
**ESSAE MARTHA CULVER,**  
State Librarian.

Franklin's New 10,000-Book Library Opens



Shown above is the culmination of 15 years of work—the newly established Franklin library which opened its doors to the public Tuesday, December 12. The white building is located immediately west of the Winnsboro Trades school and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Juror Checks out First Book



W. A. Hatton, ward eight police juror, is shown checking out the first book from the recently opened Franklin library. Miss Eunice Heitman, librarian, is giving Mr. Hatton a few pointers and suggestions in the use of the institution.

F.S. 12-21-50

(Sun Photo by Louis R. Westerburg)

F.S. 12-21-50 (Sun Photo by Louis R. Westerburg)