

Check It Out!

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mar '11

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Read St. Louis Returns
See page 6 for details.



Authors @ Your Library

Alice Butler Collins and Janet Riehl, Author Shout-Out, Kim Harrison, Michael Oher, Matt de la Peña & Susan Peters.

Calendar Section

Discover other Library events.

@ Your Library

Databases and assistive devices.

Kids & Teens

Matt de la Peña, *Suess is Loose*, *Who Needs Moms?* & *Wild About Reading*.

Guest Column

Author Stephen McAllister's library memories.

Your Next Great Read

Victorian era + futuristic innovations = Steampunk!

OPENING MARCH 14

Compton Library / Research Location

When Central Library closed last June for restoration and renewal, we promised that a new location would open featuring some of our more specialized collections. Well, the Compton Library will open for business on March 14. The facility recently underwent a renovation of its own. In addition to receiving a general sprucing up, the building had energy-efficient environmental systems, lighting, and new shelving installed. There is a workroom for staff, space for the Library's digitization projects, storage, and a small public service area with room for about 20 patrons.

Located just two blocks west of Central at 1624 Locust, Compton Library is now home to our extensive government depository collection (federal, Missouri, and St. Louis) as well as our renowned history & genealogy materials. Customers will have access to many unique St. Louis publications and files. Although the Special Collections Department is not housed at Compton, staff will be able to provide many of its items upon request.

The Compton Library's focus is on researchers and their needs. It is not intended to be a full-service Branch, so only patrons who need access to its specialized materials and subjects will be able to use it. Compton staff members are experts in their fields and are able to help researchers find information. Additionally, there are computers loaded with research software and outlets for those with their own laptops.

Because Compton is intended for researchers and seating is limited, please call ahead to make reservations and to make sure we have the materials you need.

Compton Library
1624 Locust Street
314-539-0385 for reservations
M - F: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
First Saturday of the Month:
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Authors @ Your Library

Kim Harrison

March 2 • 7 p.m. • Schlafly • \$‡



Books available for purchase courtesy of Left Bank Books.

Kim Harrison discusses and signs her new book, *Pale Demon*.

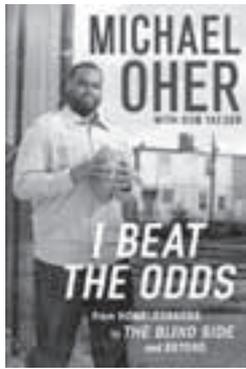
With more than 2.5 million copies of her popular Hollows novels in print, the *New York Times* bestselling author is one of the leading voices in urban fantasy.

Pale Demon begs the question, “What happens when an elf, a pixie, a living vampire, and a witch who dabbles in black magic are forced to travel cross-country together in a blue '89 Buick?”

Michael Oher

March 3 • 7 p.m. • Christ Church Cathedral • 1210 Locust Street • \$

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This is a book signing only. In order to get in line to meet Michael Oher, you must have a copy of his book, *I Beat the Odds*. (Books will be available for purchase). Only Oher's new book will be signed. Absolutely NO MEMORABILIA or other books will be signed.



Join us for an evening with Michael Oher, the Baltimore Ravens offensive tackle best known as the subject of the hit film, *The Blind Side*. In his book, *I Beat the Odds: From Homelessness to the Blind Side and Beyond*, Oher reflects on his journey from being a homeless child in Memphis to playing in the NFL.

4th Annual Author Shout-Out

March 12 • 2-5 p.m. • Schlafly • \$‡

Local authors “pitch and sell” their books to readers who appreciate hometown talent, vision, and voice. Guest speakers are Jeff Fister (owner/publisher of Virginia Publishing Co.) and Dan Thompson (President of Big River Distribution), discussing their new venture, Bluebird Publishing.

Susan Peters

March 19 • 2 p.m. • Carpenter • \$‡



Books available for purchase courtesy of author.

Susan Peters discusses and signs her book, *Sweet Liberia: Lessons From the Coal Pot*, a delightful, easy-to-read memoir that chronicles the wonderfully thick slice of humanity sandwiched between Liberia's 1980 coup and 1989 civil war. Set against the author's personal growth, her cultural struggles, and triumphs, the book is an informative, personally revealing, inspiring, and often-comical account of her family's 11-year journey.

Matt de la Peña
March 23 • 6 p.m.
Carpenter • \$‡



Books available for purchase courtesy of Puddin'Head Books.

Matt de la Peña discusses and signs his new book *Ball Don't Lie* at a special *Read It Forward* program for teens.

See page 8 for details.

MetLife Foundation

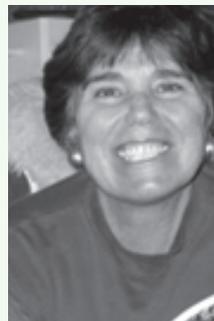
Funded by a MetLife Foundation Out of School Time Initiative Grant.



Alice Butler Collins and Janet Riehl
March 23 • 7 p.m. • Schlafly • \$‡

Books available for purchase.

Alice Butler Collins and Janet Riehl discuss a book to which they have contributed, *The Spirit of a Woman*. The book is a celebration of courageous women living spiritual lives in challenging circumstances. The women who wrote the stories come from many nations, ages, and personal histories. Some have drawn upon their cultural and religious backgrounds to lead richer, more meaningful lives.



MARCH 2011: St. Louis Public Library Events

Calendar at-a-Glance: MARCH

SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

PROGRAMS

CENTRAL

CLOSED for restoration and renewal.

BADEN

2 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

3, 31 3:30-5:30 p.m. **Game Time.** Chess, checkers & more. *Grades K-12/Families*

7 10 a.m.-Noon **Chat 'n' Brew: The Fabulous Fifties.** Relive the 1950s with food, music & your stories. *Adults**

8 3:30-5:30 p.m. **Movie: Gridiron Gang.** *Grades 6-12*

9 3:30-5:30 p.m. **Karaoke.** Show off your inner rock star. *Grades K-12*

12 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Let's Crochet!** Donita Jennings teaches simple stitches & techniques. Learn how to crochet rag slippers. Supplies provided. Beginners to experts welcome. *Ages 12 & up.*

14 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler/Preschool*

16 3:30-5:30 p.m. **Movie: Holes.** *Families*

17 4-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Shamrock Pins.** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by making a lucky (& delicious) charm. *Grades K-12*

21 10:30 a.m.-Noon **Free Blood Pressure Screening.** Staff from Grace Hill's Health To Go Van performs *FREE* blood pressure screening. Pregnant women, children & families who are uninsured or underinsured can receive assistance with a MO Health Net application. For details, call Angela Ellerson at 814-8745. *Adults*

21 11 a.m.-Noon **Let's Talk!... About Books & Movies.** Give a brief review of the book or movie you're currently enjoying. *Adults*

22 4-5 p.m. **Learn to Knit.** Everyone from beginners to experts welcome. *Families*

23 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Got Game?** Have fun with *Xbox 360 & Wii* games. *Grades 5-12*

23 4:30-5:30 p.m. **Got Game?** Have fun with *Xbox 360 & Wii* games. *Grades 2-12*

26 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **The Writer's Workshop.** Meet with peers to enhance your writing skills. *Adults*

BARR

F 11 a.m.-5 p.m. **Tax Preparation.** Volunteers from Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provide free income tax preparation assistance. Eligibility requirements apply. *Adults*

3 4-6 p.m. **Classic Children's Games: Jacks.** *Families*

7 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

9 4-6 p.m. **Got Game?** Play *Wii & Xbox 360* games. *Grades 6-12*

14, 28 11-11:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler/Preschool****

15 4-5 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target.***

15 5-6:30 p.m. **Irish Music.** Rowdy McDaniel gets listeners in the mood for St. Patrick's Day. *Adults*

16 4:30-5:30 p.m. **Flip Books.** DIY animation. *Grades 5-12*

21 4-6 p.m. **Magic Mondays.** Learn rope tricks. *Grades 3-8*

24 4:30-5:30 p.m. **Mars Needs Moms.** Blast off with a rocket craft based on Berkeley Breathed's *Mars Needs Moms*. *Grades 3-6*

30 4-6 p.m. **Game Time.** Play board & card games. *Grades K-6*

BUDER

M 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **AARP Tax Preparation.** Seniors may call the AARP tax helpline at 525-1660 to make an appointment for *FREE* tax preparation assistance. Eligibility requirements apply. *Adults**

M 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Baby Bookworms****

M 4-5 p.m. **PAWS for Reading.** A dog & volunteer from Support Dogs Inc. visit every Monday through April. Reading to the dog gives children practice reading aloud. Earn rewards for each reading milestone. Read 60 minutes & earn a book for your home library plus win a certificate redeemable for a ticket to Circus Flora. For details, call 206-6779. *PAWS for Reading* is funded in part by Nestlé Purina PetCare & Circus Flora.

W, TH 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler****

W, TH 10:30-11 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Preschool****

W 12:30-1:30 p.m. **Let's Knit!** Enjoy the company of fellow knitters. Beginners welcome. *Adults*

2 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Senior Film (Women's History Month - Joan Crawford): Our Dancing Daughters.** *Adults****

TH 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **AARP Tax Preparation.** Seniors may call the AARP tax helpline at 525-1660 to make an appointment for *FREE* tax preparation assistance. Eligibility requirements apply. *Adults**

3 4-5 p.m. **Teen Advisory Board.** Give us your input & help make the Library more fun. *Grades 6-12*

8 6:30-7 p.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. Wear your PJs! *Preschool*

9 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Senior Film Series (Women's History Month - Joan Crawford): Mildred Pierce.** *Adults****

10 4-5 p.m. **Got Game?** Challenge your friends on *Wii* or *Xbox 360*. *Grades 6-12****

15 10:30 a.m.-Noon **Traveling Tuesdays.** Join fellow "tourists" for a film about Ireland. *Adults*

16 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Senior Film Series (Women's History Month - Joan Crawford): Humoresque.** *Adults****

17 10 a.m.-Noon **Citizen Soldiers: Researching Revolutionary War Ancestors.** Discussion of print, microfilm, manuscript & website sources on our patriot ancestors. Presented by the Library's History & Genealogy Department. To register or for information, e-mail tpearson@slpl.org. *Adults***

17 4-5 p.m. **St. Patrick's Day Science.** Science projects inspired by the Emerald Isle. *Grades K-5****

19 10-11:30 a.m. **Mystery Lover's Book Club.** Donald Westlake's *Get Real*. *Adults****

19 1-2 p.m. **Book Discussion Group.** Geraldine Brooks' *March*. *Adults*



(continued on page 4)

* Registration required ** Registration recommended *** Groups of 5 or more please register in advance



BUDER

(continued from page 3)

19 2-3 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target.

23 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Senior Film Series (Women's History Month – Joan Crawford): Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?** *Adults****

23 6-8 p.m. **Searching the United States Patents & Trademarks Office Website's Database.** Learn how to search whether or not your idea is already trademarked. Limit: 16. *Adults*

30 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Senior Film Series (Women's History Month – Joan Crawford): Mommie Dearest.** *Adults****

30 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12****

31 4-5 p.m. **Friendship Bracelets.** Learn, share & knot bracelets for you & your friends. *Grades K-8****

CABANNE

M 9:15 a.m.-Noon **AARP Tax Preparation.** Seniors may call the AARP tax helpline at 525-1660 to make an appointment for FREE tax preparation assistance. Eligibility requirements apply. *Adults**

2, 3 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Celebrate Seuss.** *Grades K-5*

5 1-2 p.m. **Bead It.** Make a pair of earrings. Instruction & materials supplied. Limit: 12. *Adults**

15 3:30-5 p.m. **Critter Magnet.** *Grades 6-12*

16 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

17 3:30-5 p.m. **Movie: Shrek.** *Families*

19 1-2 p.m. **Book Discussion Group.** Share your favorite book. *Adults*

23 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Movie: Book of Eli.** *Adults*

23 3:30-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Collage Treasure Box.** *Grades K-5*

CARONDELET

CLOSED for restoration and renewal.

CARPENTER

M 9 a.m.-Noon **AARP Tax Preparation.** Seniors may call the AARP tax helpline at 525-1660 to make an appointment for FREE tax preparation assistance. Eligibility requirements apply. *Adults**

TU 4:30-5:30 p.m. **PAWS for Reading.** A dog & volunteer from Support Dogs Inc. visit every Tuesday through April. Reading to the dog gives children practice reading aloud. An incentive program provides rewards for each reading milestone. Read 60 minutes & earn a book for your home library. For details, call 206-6779. *PAWS for Reading* is funded in part by Nestlé Purina PetCare & Circus Flora.

1 6:30-7 p.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Preschool*

5 2-3 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target. *Families*

7 6-7 p.m. **Poetry Circle.** Share & hear poetry by other teens. *Grades 6-12*

8 6-7 p.m. **Got Game.** Celebrate Teen Tech Week. Play *Wii* & *Xbox 360* games. *Grades 6-12*

9, 23 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Baby Bookworms*

10 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Mars Needs Moms.** Blast off with a rocket craft based on Berkeley Breathed's *Mars Needs Moms*. *Grades 3-6*

10 7-8 p.m. **For the Love of Wisdom: A Philosophy Book Discussion Group.** Shane Claiborne & John Perkins' *Follow Me to Freedom*. To reserve your copy, call Michael at 772-6586. *Adults*

15 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

16 2-3 p.m. **Art Contest.** Paint, draw, sculpt, or create a piece of artwork. Submit entries to Carpenter Youth Service staff between March 1-16. *Grades K-12*

16 6-8 p.m. **Family Movie: Monsters vs. Aliens.**

16 7-8 p.m. **Urban Book Discussion Group.** Guy Johnson's *Standing at the Scratch Line*. *Adults*

17 2-3 p.m. **St. Patrick's Day Pins.** Make a jaunty pin to wear. *Grades 3-8*

19 2-3 p.m. **American Girl Club.** Make an *American Girl*-themed craft. *Grades 3-6*

24 6-7 p.m. **Book Discussion Group.** Scott Westerfeld's *Uglies*. *Grades 6-12**

28 9 a.m.-Noon **Community Health in Partnership Services (CHIPS).** Free health screenings, education & assessments for those without access to a healthcare provider. Nurses screen for diabetes & high blood pressure. Treatment referrals. *Adults*

28 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Magic Monday.** Learn a new magic trick. *Grades 4-12*

CENTRAL EXPRESS

2 11-11:45 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler/Preschool*

DIVOLL

W 4:30-5:30 p.m. **PAWS for Reading.** A dog & volunteer from Support Dogs Inc. visit every Wednesday through April. Reading to the dog gives children practice reading aloud. Earn rewards for each reading milestone. Read 60 minutes & earn a book for your home library plus win a certificate redeemable for a ticket to Circus Flora. For details, call 206-6779. *PAWS for Reading* is funded in part by Nestlé Purina PetCare & Circus Flora.

2 3:30-5 p.m. **Seuss is Loose.** Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with stories, games & crafts. *Toddlers-Grade 5*

8 4-5 p.m. **Captain Underpants.** Stories, activities & more. *Grades 2-5*

10 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

15 3-4:30 p.m. **Celebrating Women: Mary McLeod Bethune.** Film about educator Mary McLeod Bethune. *Adults*

22 4:30-5:30 p.m. **Get Crafty: Stress Balls.** Make a stress ball to relieve the stress of upcoming exams & projects. *Grades 6-12*

23 5-6 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target. *Families*

JULIA DAVIS

9 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

10 6:30-8 p.m. **Urban Street Lit Café Book Discussion Group.** Kimberla Lawson Roby's *Love, Honor, Betray*. *Adults*

12 11 a.m.-3 p.m. **Community Health in Partnership Services (CHIPS).** Free health screenings, education & assessments for those without access to a healthcare provider. Nurses screen for diabetes & high blood pressure. Treatment referrals. *Adults*

15 4-5 p.m. **Door Hanger.** Make a hanger for your bedroom doorknob. *Grades K-6*

11: Events



17 10-10:45 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & crafts. *Ages 3-5*

19 12:30-3:30 p.m. **Saturday Reading Club Book Discussion Group.** Donna Cross' *Pope Joan*. *Adults*

21 4-5 p.m. **Game Time.** Play *Apples to Apples*. *Families*

21 6-8 p.m. **Manga Book Discussion.** Greg Rucka's *Wonder Woman: Down to Earth*. *Adults*

30 4-5 p.m. **Japanese Fan.** Fan-tastic Japanese fans. *Grades 6-12*

KINGSHIGHWAY

M 10:30-11 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler/Preschool*^{***}

W 4-5 p.m. **PAWS for Reading.** A dog & volunteer from Support Dogs Inc. visit every Wednesday though April. Reading to the dog gives children practice reading aloud. An incentive program provides rewards for each reading milestone. Read 60 minutes & earn a book for your home library. For details, call 206-6779. *PAWS for Reading* is funded in part by Nestlé Purina PetCare & Circus Flora.

2 4-5 p.m. **Mars Needs Moms.** Blast off with a rocket craft based on Berkeley Breathed's *Mars Needs Moms*. *Grades 3-6*

8 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

15 6:45-8 p.m. **Book Discussion Group.** Kathryn Stockett's *The Help*. *Adults*

16 4-5 p.m. **Get Crafty: Curiouser & Curiouser.** Fall into Wonderland with two mad crafts. *Grades K-4*^{***}

17 4-6 p.m. **Got Game?** Play *Xbox 360* or *Wii* games. *Grades 6-12*

26 11 a.m.-Noon **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target. *Families*

30 4-6 p.m. **Movie: Alice in Wonderland.** *Families*^{***}

MACHACEK

T (except 3/15) 9:15-10:45 a.m. **Ladies Exercise Class.** Stay fit with a fun group. *Adults*

W 12:30-2:30 p.m. **Crochet Ladies.** An old-fashioned "bee." Bring your needlework. *Adults*

1 10-11 a.m. **Machacek Book Discussion Group.** Call 781-2948 for current selection. *Adults*

1, 15 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Toddler*

3, 17 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Preschool*

3 4-5 p.m. **Apples to Apples.** Who can win the most Mardi Gras beads? *Grades 6-12*

8, 22, 29 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **Mexican Train Dominoes.** Drop in for a variation of an old favorite. Bring a sack lunch & something to share. *Adults*

8 4-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Mardi Gras Necklaces.** Make beads & necklaces. *Grades K-5*

9 7-7:30 p.m. **Storytime.** Stories, songs & more. *Families*

14 6:30-7:30 p.m. **Popular Library Book Discussion Group.** Steve Martin's *An Object of Beauty*. *Adults*

15 10-11 a.m. **Irish for a Day.** View the short film *Ireland* and enjoy Irish soda bread & tea. Share stories of your visits to Ireland, favorite Irish lore, jokes, or songs. Wear your greenest finery. *Adults*

16 7-8 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target. *Families*

17 4-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Leprechaun Hats.** *Grades K-5*

21 4-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Tissue Paper Flowers.** *Grades K-5*

29 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

SCHLAFELY

M 4-5 p.m. **PAWS for Reading.** A dog & volunteer from Support Dogs Inc. visit every Monday through April. Reading to the dog gives children practice reading aloud. Earn rewards for each reading milestone. Read 60 minutes & earn a book for your home library plus win a certificate redeemable for a ticket to Circus Flora. For details, call 206-6779. *PAWS for Reading* is funded in part by Nestlé Purina PetCare & Circus Flora.

TU 6-8 p.m. **Step for Fitness.** Practice your line dancing skills, learn new steps & enjoy the music. It's informal, *FREE* & newcomers are welcome. Beginners: 6-7 p.m. / Advanced: 7-8 p.m. *Adults*

3, 17 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime.** *Toddler/Preschool*^{***}

3 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*^{***}

4 Noon-1 p.m. **Let's Do Lunch!** Bring a sack lunch and hear Helen Chesnut (Executive Director, St. Louis Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure) share inspiring stories. *Adults**

8 4-5 p.m. **Creative Kids: Suncatchers.** *Grades K-5*^{***}

10 6-8 p.m. **Muscular Dystrophy Panel Discussion.** View *Darius Goes West*, a documentary that highlights a young man's incredible story as he battles muscular dystrophy. Panel discussion examines how this issue affects the St. Louis Community. Sponsored by the Library's Diversity Committee & the Diversity Awareness Partnership. *Adults*

10 7-8 p.m. **Family Night: St. Patrick's Day.** Read stories & decorate a St. Patrick's Day-themed container. *Families*^{***}

14 6-8 p.m. **Monday Movie Madness (Women Victorious): Dark Victory.** *Adults*

15 4-5 p.m. **Critter Pins.** *Grades 6-12*^{***}

17 3-4:30 p.m. **Thinking About Starting a Nonprofit? Part I: Essential Decisions for Success.** Learn steps necessary to start a successful nonprofit. Workshops led by Sue Greenberg of Volunteer Lawyers & Accountants for the Arts & Laurie Hauber of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. Call 539-0357 to register. *Adults**

17 7-8 p.m. **Wild About Reading.** The Saint Louis Zoo presents a family read-aloud featuring live animals! Pick up a *Wild About Reading* tote bag (1 per family). Sponsored by Target. *Families*^{***}

21 6-8 p.m. **Monday Movie Madness (Women Victorious): Princess Kaiulan.** *Adults*

23 4-5 p.m. **Central Book Discussion.** Susan Vreeland's *Luncheon of the Boating Party*. *Adults**

24 7-8 p.m. **Book Discussion Group.** Pang-Mei Natasha Chang's *Bound Feet & Western Dress*. New members welcome. *Adults*

24 7-8 p.m. **Family Night: Funny Flower Vases.** Read spring stories & decorate a vase. *Families*^{***}

28 6-8 p.m. **Monday Movie Madness (Women Victorious): The Kids Are All Right.** *Adults*

31 3-4:30 p.m. **Thinking About Starting a Nonprofit? Part II: Get Ready, Get Set, Go!** Leaders help participants get additional information about basic steps to starting a nonprofit. Workshops led by Sue Greenberg of Volunteer Lawyers & Accountants for the Arts & Laurie Hauber of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. Call 539-0357 to register. *Adults**

WALNUT PARK

W 4-5 p.m. **Wacky Wednesday.**
Game Day. *Grades K-12*

1 4-5 p.m. **Oh So Crafty: Mardi Gras Mask.** Celebrate Fat Tuesday. *Grades 6-12*

11 4-6 p.m. **Matinee Movie: Up.**
Families

15 4-5 p.m. **Oh So Crafty: St. Patrick's Pin.** Create a shamrock pin. *Grades K-12*

19 1-2 p.m. **The Poetry Club.** Bring your poetry to life. Style & techniques will

be introduced, but the ultimate goal is to bring out the writer in you. *Adults*

25 4-6 p.m. **Matinee Movie: Prince of Persia.** *Families*

28 10-10:30 a.m. **Storytime:** Stories, songs & more. *Preschool/Toddler*

29 4-5 p.m. **Oh So Crafty: Bead Animals.** Make fun animals. *Grades K-12*

31 4-5 p.m. **DIY Earbud Holders.** Make a headphone holder from recycled materials. *Grades 6-12*

* Registration required
** Registration recommended
*** Groups of 5 or more please register in advance



FREE GED Programs

The programs are open to anyone age 17 or older who is either studying for the GED exam or who wants to increase his or her literacy skills.

The GED Connection Video Study Group Program consists of viewing videos, group discussion,

and workbook exercises that cover reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. A facilitator is always there to assist.

Thursdays Barr 4-6 p.m.
Thursdays Carpenter
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

The **GED Online Program** is the perfect solution for those who

cannot make it to traditional classes. Individuals set their own pace as they work on lessons in the Library's computer labs or at home. A facilitator is always in the lab to assist.

Tuesdays Buder 5-7 p.m.
Thursdays Julia Davis 6-8 p.m.

Questions? Call 539-0365.

LIBRARY EXHIBITS

CABANNE
The Work of Ntozake Shange.

CARPENTER
Women of the World: Their History and Achievements.

JULIA DAVIS
Women's History: Remembering Dr. Julia Davis.

MACHACEK
The Writin' o' the Green: Irish Women Authors.

SCHLAFLY
Gallery: Transitions.
By artist Grant Codak.

Display Case
Tribute to the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.



English as a Second Language: FREE Practice Sessions

Carpenter
TU 7-8 p.m.

Schlafly
M 7-8 p.m.
TU 10-11 a.m.
SA 1-2 p.m.

Win Tickets to Disney On Ice!

The St. Louis Public Library, in conjunction with Feld Entertainment, is having a contest in celebration of the upcoming production of **Disney On Ice! Presents Mickey & Minnie's Magical Journey.** A set of four tickets will be given away at every Library location.

Entering is easy. Kids ages 1-5 years complete a Disney coloring sheet, and youngsters ages 6 and up will take a

trivia quiz. Entries MUST be received by **4 p.m.** on **March 10.** Winners will be notified by **March 12.**

Mickey & Minnie's Magical Journey runs **March 17-20** at Scottrade Center.

For Library information, call 539-0384 or visit spl.org.

For Disney information, visit www.disney.org.

Read St. Louis Community Reading Initiative Returns

The St. Louis Public Library is pleased to partner with our friends at the St. Louis County Library for the third year to bring you *Read St. Louis*, our popular communitywide reading initiative. This year's author visits include **David Finkel, Jonathan Franzen, Lois Lowry, Walter Mosley, and Joyce Carol Oates.**



This month you'll enjoy:

Joyce Carol Oates
March 4 at
7 p.m.

St. Louis County Library Headquarters



and
Walter Mosley
March 12 at
7 p.m.

St. Louis County Library Headquarters



Next month be sure to see:

Lois Lowry
April 16 at 2 p.m.
Schlafly Branch

Visit www.readstlouis.org for details.





Lions and Tigers and... *Databases?*



Dorothy was worried about lions and tigers and bears in the Land of Oz. Today, she might be more concerned about jobs and schoolwork and health. If so, the Library's reference databases could help. She would be able to use them to find information on almost any topic—from what she wanted to read next to finding a groomer for Toto. She'd even be able to access some of them from home by visiting spl.org.

The Library's databases provide premium content not generally found on the open Internet. They're filled with up-to-the-minute information sources that have been evaluated for their helpfulness, ease of use, and accuracy. Our staff can help you select the one that's right for you.

If you need help with a job search, *Learning Express* offers a section on applying for jobs, and *RefUSA* can help identify companies that might need your skills.

Several databases including *Discovering*, *Facts on File*, and *America the Beautiful* are great for students with schoolwork. *Learning Express* benefits students by offering practice tests that allow them to find out how well they did—on the spot.

Other tools such as *Health & Wellness Info*, *Facts on File*, and *AccessScience* provide the latest trustworthy information on health issues for everyone from newborns to seniors.

Whether you need information for a research paper, car repair, your family tree, or you just want to learn about lions and tigers and bears, there's a database at the Library that can help.

Assistive Devices Enhance Library Experience

Some refer to libraries as "The People's University." We agree. As such, one of our first priorities is to ensure that we make our materials, services, and facilities easily accessible to all patrons, including those with disabilities.

In addition to the Adult Outreach Service, which provides book delivery to customers who are unable to come to the Library, we continue to use the ongoing renovation of our Branches as an opportunity to make them user-friendly for visitors.

We offer special equipment at our four regional Branches (Buder, Carpenter, Julia Davis, and Schlafly) to assist patrons. Each has a Kurzweil Reader, a device that scans a book and translates written words into speech, thereby "reading" books aloud. And all Branches feature computers equipped with *ZoomText* software, which enlarges type to make it easier for people with visual impairments to read.

Your St. Louis Public Library also has an impressive collection of specialized materials. For example, we have "Hi-Lo" (High Interest—Low Reading Level) books. We offer large-print books, audiobooks, and descriptive videos that can be helpful for those with vision problems. Most of our video collection comes with closed captioning for those who have difficulty hearing. And if we don't have what you need, our staff is happy to refer you to Wolfner Library in Jefferson City, the Library of Congress' regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Expanding your knowledge and improving your life is as easy as getting a Library card and enrolling in "The People's University."



Kids & Teens

Read It Forward With Author Matt de la Peña



Teens—Get your FREE copy of **Ball Don't Lie** at your Library (one per family, while supplies last). Then, **Read It Forward**—share your book with a friend.

Hear author **Matt de la Peña** talk about his life and books at a special celebration on **March 23** from **6-7 p.m.** at **Carpenter**. Join in the fun, and you could **win a basketball!**

Ball Don't Lie takes place where the street and the court meet, where a boy can be anything if he puts his mind to it. Sticky has nowhere to call home except the street. But he can play ball. Basketball might just be his ticket to a better life. The rhythm of dribble, jump shot, and dunk punctuates the narrative with a staccato effect like a fast-paced game of hoops.

Other novels by de la Peña include *Mexican White Boy*, *We Were Here*, and *I Will Save You*. *Ball Don't Lie*, *Mexican White Boy*, and *We Were Here* made the American Library Association's

Best Books for Young Adults and Quick Pick lists. His first picture book, *Joe Louis: A Nation in His Hands* (illustrated by Kadir Nelson), was published in January.

E-mail readitforward@slpl.org for more info.

Books available for purchase courtesy of Pudd'nHead Books.

Read It Forward is funded by a generous grant from the MetLife Foundation.

MetLife Foundation

Funded by a MetLife Foundation Out of School Time Initiative Grant.

Who Needs Moms? Rocket Craft



That's what Milo thinks until Martians arrive to kidnap some moms—his own in particular. The popular book, **Mars Needs Moms** by Berkeley Breathed (creator of *Bloom County* and *Opus*) is coming to movie theaters in animated 3D on March 11.

Be ready for the Martians with a rocket craft that you'll love "to the ends of the universe."

Grades 3-6

2 **Kingshighway** 4-5 p.m.
10 **Carpenter** 3:30-4:30 p.m.
24 **Barr** 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Seuss is Loose

Meet the Lorax, or Thidwick Read Horton or Sneetches, Reading those words Will have you in stitches.

Kids—America Reading Means laughter galore; Seuss at the Library, Won't be a bore.

Celebrate the master word-maker-upper's birthday on March 2 and 3 at **Cabanne** and **Divoll**. Check the *Calendar* for times.



The Library and the Zoo are Wild About Reading

The St. Louis Zoo is coming to every Library Branch during March for the *Wild About Reading* program. Hear stories featuring animal characters and then meet the real live Zoo animals. See the *Calendar* for dates and times.

Each family that attends will receive a *Wild About Reading* tote bag. Our friends from the Zoo remind you to:

- Visit the Library on the same day every week.
- Check out the same number of books each week.
- If you miss your Library visit, call 539-0373 or go to slpl.org to renew your books.
- Don't let any Zoo animals eat your books.

Use your tote every week to carry home five animal books and receive more prizes.

This Library/Zoo partnership is made possible by a generous grant from Target.



A Homecoming at the Library by Stephen McAllister



In 2006, as my wife and I climbed the century-old marble steps of Central Library to participate in a unique literary venture, *Operation Homecoming*, I was overwhelmed with memories of my childhood.

I grew up in Illinois farm country. My little town wasn't big enough to support its own bookstore, but it was

big enough to support a small library. One block off the town square, it was a brick building built in the early 1900s. It had only one floor for books, but it was packed. Every time we'd come to town, we'd always seem to make a trip to the library. It was as common as going to the grocery store.

It was from this little library that I began reading Dickens, Golding, and Poe; histories of the English crown and of World War II; mysteries and science fiction. However, it wasn't until we went to "the big city" and visited the St. Louis Public Library's Central Library—filled with marble, rich wood, and stained glass—that I found books on subjects unavailable in my hometown; books that were devoted to my then all-consuming passion: crystallography (the scientific study of crystalline structures). When I was finally dragged away, I had a list of titles for my little library in Carlinville, Illinois, to find. Soon I had books to study on that mysterious subject.

The years went by. I served as a pilot and staff officer in the United States Air Force for more than twenty-five years. I participated in the first Gulf War and was stationed in Afghanistan for eight months in 2003. It was from the experiences in the latter deployment that I created a lengthy journal, *Afghanistan Diary*. Two stories from that diary were collected with other military writings by the National Endowment for the Arts and published through Random House in a book titled *Operation Homecoming*.

The St. Louis Public Library folks, the Boeing Corporation, and the book's editor, Andrew Carroll, made this old veteran feel like I was one of the most important people in the world when *Operation Homecoming* was released.

I still write. I have published three books of poetry, two novels, and a collection of short stories. In 2010, I participated in the Author Shout-Out at the Schlafly Branch. And I'll be there again on March 12. I hope you'll come and we can visit. I love to talk about writing and libraries.

McAllister is a retired U.S. Air Force officer who lives in Belleville, IL.

Hours & Locations

CENTRAL LIBRARY CLOSED for restoration and renewal.

Ask A Librarian & directory assistance available during restoration at 314-241-2288 or webref@slpl.org.

CENTRAL EXPRESS

815 Olive St., Ste. 160
314-206-6755
Fax: 314-621-0215
M, TU, W & F: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
TH: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

BADEN BRANCH

8448 Church Rd.
314-388-2400
M: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
TU - TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

BARR BRANCH

1701 S. Jefferson Ave.
314-771-7040
M: 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.
TU - TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

BUDER BRANCH

4401 Hampton Ave.
314-352-2900
M - TH: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
F & SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SU: 1 - 5 p.m.

CABANNE BRANCH

1106 Union Blvd.
314-367-0717
M: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
TU- TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CARONDELET BRANCH CLOSED for restoration and renewal.

Ask A Librarian & directory assistance available during restoration at 314-241-2288 or webref@slpl.org.

CARPENTER BRANCH

3309 S. Grand Blvd.
314-772-6586
M - TH: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
F & SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SU: 1 - 5 p.m.

CHARING CROSS

356 N. Skinker Blvd.
314-726-2653
Closed Monday
TU - F: 1 - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - Noon
1 - 6 p.m.

DIVOLL BRANCH

4234 N. Grand Blvd.
314-534-0313
M: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
TU - TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

FILM LIBRARY CENTRAL CLOSED

JULIA DAVIS BRANCH

4415 Natural Bridge Ave.
314-383-3021
M - TH: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
F - SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SU: 1 - 5 p.m.

KINGSHIGHWAY BRANCH

2260 S. Vandeventer Ave.
314-771-5450
M: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
TU - TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MACHACEK BRANCH

6424 Scanlan Ave.
314-781-2948
M & W: Noon - 9 p.m.
TU, TH, F & SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

ST. LOUIS MARKETPLACE

6548 Manchester Ave.
314-647-0939
Closed Monday
TU - TH: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

SCHLAFLY BRANCH

225 N. Euclid Ave.
314-367-4120
M - TH: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
F & SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SU: 1 - 5 p.m.

WALNUT PARK BRANCH

5760 W. Florissant Ave.
314-383-1210
M: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
TU - TH: Noon - 7 p.m.
F: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SA: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CALL CENTER

to book a computer
314-206-6702

Check It Out!

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What do you get when you mix the Victorian era with futuristic innovations? Steampunk!

Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld

In an alternate 1914 Europe, 15-year-old Austrian Prince Alek is on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the world using mechanical devices. He forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy in order to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically engineered beasts.

Soulless by Gail Carriger

This debut novel introduces readers to Alexia Tarabotti, a soulless oddity that tries to solve a supernatural mystery in Victorian London.

Steampunk Style Jewelry by Jean Campbell

This book features a variety of work and techniques on how to create Victorian, fantasy, and mechanical designs in jewelry.

The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

Wells' astonishing novel of one man's journey beyond the limits of imagination.

Clementine by Cherie Priest

Maria Isabella Boyd, a former actress and Confederate spy on her first mission for the Pinkerton Detective Agency, confronts an air pirate who is determined to recover the ship that she is piloting.

Sherlock Holmes (DVD)

Sherlock Holmes and his assistant unravel clues that will lead them into a web of murder, deceit, and black magic.

