The Spring Semester is about to begin. Whether or not you decide to stay in the area to attend college be sure to keep your library card on hand to help with homework assignments. As long as you have an Internet connection you can access the Bossier Parish Library at www.bossierlibrary.org, 24/7 from anywhere with your library card.

One of the most important links for students on our website is the one to the State Library of Louisiana. The Louisiana Library Connection Databases are arranged into six categories: Arts & Humanities; Biography & Genealogy; Books & Book Reviews; Business & Financial; Careers & Jobs; and General Interest. Each has an extensive collection of materials.

There are other topics such as Kids Reference, Homework Help, and Test Preparations for students of all ages. Students heading for college will especially appreciate the Test Preparations section where they can practice taking college entrance exams for free. Students can also practice the GED exam.

LoanShark, a portal through the State Library to all public libraries in Louisiana, can help locate materials that may not be in our collection. You can search other libraries and request to borrow them through the statewide interlibrary loan system. The items will be sent to your home branch at no charge.

Reference materials are available on site at the branches with the largest collection being at Bossier Central. Trained Reference Librarians are on hand to help answer your questions. Test proctoring is also provided at the Bossier Central Library. Call Reference Librarian Connie Ammons at (318) 746-1693 to learn more.

Stop by your neighborhood branch and ask for a tour. Being familiar with the layout of the library can save you time and trouble when you need information quickly. And get to know your librarians, too. We do not know everything, but we sure know where to find most of it.

Make a note:

- Beginning Jan. 9, Family Story Time will take place each Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the History Center Meeting Room. This is for parents and children 0–12-years-old, and is ideal for families with more than one child. There will be lots of singing and dancing, as well as a craft for each child. Parents MUST remain in the meeting room during the program. Contact Jessica at (318) 746-1693 for details.

- Tuesday, Jan. 13 from 4:30-5:45 p.m. at Bossier Central Library Ricky Kilpatrick, Area Forestry Agent and Cindy Kilpatrick, Louisiana Urban Forestry Outreach Coordinator will present, “Why Are My Trees Yellow?” Call Anne for more information.

- Tuesday, Jan. 22 from 3-4 p.m. kids ages eight to 12 are invited to attend Craft Blast at the Bossier Central Library. Seating is limited; call to make a reservation.

New Books

Fiction
“Murder of a Beauty Shop Queen” by Bill Crider
“What the Cat Saw” by Carolyn Hart
“Flight Behavior” by Barbara Kingsolver
“Artifact” by Gigi Pandian
“Red Country” by Joe Abercrombie
“A Land More Kind than Home” by Wiley Cash
“Ghosts of Manhattan” by Douglas Brunt
“The Devil in Silver” by Victor LaValle
“Not Dead Yet” by Peter James
“Invisible Murder” by Lene Kaaberbol and Agnete Friis

Nonfiction
“Codes for Homeowners” by Bruce A. Barker
“Boxer's Book of Conditioning & Drilling” by Mark Hatmaker
“Sports Illustrated Almanac 2013” by Morin Bishop
“On Saudi Arabia” by Karen Elliott House
“Walking the Amazon” by Ted Stafford
“Giant in the Shadow” by Jason Emerson
“2013 Songwriter’s Market” by William Brohaugh, editor
“The One” by R. J. Smith
“Liars and Outliers: Enabling the Trust that Society Needs to Thrive” by Bruce Schneier
“The Good Life” by Trip Lee

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