

SUMMER EDITION

JUNE | JULY | AUGUST  
2022

# BPL CONNECTION

SUMMER EXPERIENCE IS BACK!  
MAY 20 - JULY 31



BOSSIER PARISH  
LIBRARIES

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WWW.BOSSIERLIBRARY.ORG

HOLIDAY CLOSURE: ALL LIBRARY LOCATIONS WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 4



# SUMMER EXPERIENCE IS HERE!

**When is it?**

May 20 - July 31

**Who is it for?**

All Ages!

**How do you register?**

Registration is open now and there are multiple ways to register yourself or your family for our summer program.

**Option 1:**

Stop in to any of our library locations to register in person.

**Option 2:**

Go online to our website:

[www.bossierlibrary.org/summerexperience](http://www.bossierlibrary.org/summerexperience)

which will take you to our info page and a link to READsquared registration.

**Option 3:**

Go directly to READsquared and follow the steps below.

Start: [bossierlibrary.readsquared.com](http://bossierlibrary.readsquared.com)

Did you sign up to log your reading time on ReadSquared last year?

YES | NO

Click on the **Login** button at the top, right-hand side of your screen

Click on the **Register** button at the top, right-hand side of your screen

MYSELF INCLUDES:

Registering for any single individual with no linked accounts - just you, just your child, etc

SINGLE PERSON

MULTIPLE PEOPLE

MYSELF ONLY

MYSELF & OTHER READERS

UH OH! Forgotten password? Just click on "forgot password" and you'll get an email to update it.

Sign in, then select what program you're participating in!

Select the age of the individual you are registering & the program you/they are registering for.

Start with you!

This account can act as your "master" account for logging time for everyone in your family at once.

CONGRATULATIONS! You're Done!

Now add children's and/or spouse's accounts.



## Chef Panderina Soumas

\*Ages 18+

Benton June 2 | 5:30pm

## Marshall Mitchell Cowboy Music

Aulds July 19 | 11:45am

## Michelle's Magical Poodles

Central July 26 | 10am

Aulds July 26 | 12pm

Join us for a variety of entertainers, all ages welcome unless indicated otherwise. Also, please register to save your spot!

## SPECIAL GUESTS

## Jubilee Petting Zoo

Benton June 3 | 10am

Aulds June 7 | 10am

Tooke June 8 | 2pm

Central June 24 | 11am

Haughton June 29 | 11am

## Game On Game Truck

Haughton June 8 | 11am

Aulds June 8 | 5pm

Central June 10 | 11am

Plain Dealing June 14 | 2pm

East 80 June 16 | 4pm

Benton June 18 | 2pm

## Arthur Zarr's Amazing Art Car

Benton June 21 | 10am

Aulds June 21 | 12pm

East 80 June 21 | 4pm

Haughton June 22 | 11am

Plain Dealing June 22 | 2pm

## Scuba Ventures

\*Ages 18+

Tooke June 1 | 2pm

Haughton June 13 | 11am

Benton June 14 | 2pm



## The Amazing Geebo

Benton July 12 | 10am

Plain Dealing July 12 | 2pm

East 80 July 12 | 5pm

Haughton July 13 | 11am

Tooke July 13 | 2pm



# IT'S AN HONOR TO BE A "JEEP-O!"

Don't You Want to be a Jeep-O? inquires the headline from an August, 1943 issue of Barksdale's Bark, the newspaper of Barksdale Field, now Barksdale Air Force Base. The Barksdale Field "Jeep-O" program was officially sanctioned by Base Commander William B. Wright, Jr. earlier that month. By signing up to be a member of the "Jeep-O" program and affixing to their windshield a yellow sticker designating this membership in Barksdale's share-a-ride club, even a civilian with no special skills or tools (besides an automobile!) could help the GIs at Barksdale during wartime. This assistance was critical because with World War II raging overseas, the personnel strength had doubled at Barksdale Field, and local public transportation was bursting at the seams.



Clarissa Warren, first civilian to officially join the "Barksdale Jeep-O" club and is presented with a Jeep badge by Col. William B. Wright Jr. - The Barksdale Bark 04 Sep 1943

Every driver who pledged to give a soldier a ride received a Jeep-O sticker for their car windshield. Wherever a Jeep-O driver happened to be headed, if it was in the same general direction of an on-base soldier wanting to get to town, or a married soldier trying to return home from the base during rush hour when there weren't enough seats on city buses, a mere "civie" or civilian, (as well as other soldiers or official military chauffeurs with empty seats) could do their part and offer a ride. Soldiers were not allowed to hitchhike, but they were allowed to take a ride if offered. The yellow stickers, therefore, were as much for the benefit of the driver as for the passenger. The yellow "Jeep-O" sticker in the windshield reminded the driver to stop and offer their extra seat.

The Jeep-O programs began in Alabama for soldiers at Army Fort McClellan, thanks to the suggestion of some soldiers and with the organizing efforts of the local Kiwanis Club. Within a year, the idea had spread to 22 states. Starting May 24, 1943, National Jeep-O Week was observed in all 48 states. As for the origin of the name, the "Jeep" in "Jeep-O" appears to be referring to both the soldier and the vehicle in which he could ride. The word "jeep" was used as early as World War I as U.S. Army slang for new uninitiated recruits and by Army mechanics to refer to new unproven vehicles. It wasn't until 1945 that the first Jeep-branded product launched.

Signs ordered by Commander Wright were placed at the gates to Barksdale, reminding motorists that "a lift is a boost." Not only would a ride help soldiers get to work or home for supper on time, it would also literally keep them from sweating out the wait in long lines for the bus during the sweltering Louisiana heat. The Barksdale's Bark on October 30 of 1943 said, "Nothing short of 100 percent participation will give soldiers the break they deserve."

A "Letter to the Editor" of the Barksdale's Bark in September of 1943 was not so sanguine. Starting with humor then moving into shaming, a "Brooklyn Jeep," a fictional GI from Brooklyn, NY, wrote a complaint letter to the editor with exaggerated Brooklyn "speech". Referring to civilian drivers or "Civies," he stated, "dose guys and gals could be the real heroes of dis war if dey'd only loosen up and share a little space in their golden chariots..." then moves on to a bit of shaming. "You see, Ed [Editor], if the Southern hospitality was what it's cracked up to be, a lot of us jeeps could go as far as the gate, be picked up by the Civies, and consequently there would be more room on the busses [sic] for the udder guys."

The "Brooklyn Jeep" really brought home his point by stating the indisputable tragedy of wartime. "Some of us guys won't come back once we hit the udder side. The least the Civies can do is to exchange a ride in their chariots for a life that might be lost so that they and their chariots can be safe in the future." As the Barksdale Bark had stated at the very beginning of the Jeep-O program, "It's an honor to be a 'Jeep-O!'"



**CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!**

For other fun facts, photos, and videos, be sure to follow us @BPLHistoryCenter on FB and @bplhistorycenter on TikTok!

If you have any information, stories, or photos about the Jeep-O program at Barksdale or other local efforts to help out servicemembers during WWII, we would love to see them or to copy them, with permission, to add to the History Center's research collection.





Love the library and want to let others know it?

# BE A LIBRARY AMBASSADOR!

## THE BASICS

- The core goal of the Library Ambassador Program is to engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of the library.
- In a nutshell, advocacy is publicly supporting the library and our mission—this can be anything from being a vocal supporter within your peer group to volunteering time for various advocacy initiatives.

**We are looking for anyone that is passionate about libraries and supporting us in this way.**

**Your support is vital to our ability to continue to serve our communities.**

The **mission** of Bossier Parish Libraries is to enrich, educate, and inspire our community by providing unique and welcoming physical and virtual environments in which open thought, innovation, and the sharing of ideas are encouraged. Our **vision** is to support the changing needs of Bossier Parish by being a safe and inviting haven for all, fostering education and literacy, encouraging personal growth, inspiring curiosity, and building connections that strengthen our community.

We recognize the library cannot accomplish any of this alone and it will take **collaboration** between all members of the community to achieve these goals.

**We need you now, more than ever, to advocate for your libraries.**

**Sign-Up Today!**



[www.bossierlibrary.org/library-ambassador](http://www.bossierlibrary.org/library-ambassador)



# FIND YOUR HOME BRANCH:

**Aulds Branch**  
3950 Wayne Avenue  
Bossier City | 71112  
318.742.2337

**East 80 Branch**  
1050 Bellevue Road  
Haughton | 71037  
318.949.2665

**Plain Dealing Branch**  
208 East Mary Lee Avenue  
Plain Dealing | 71064  
318.326.4233

**Benton Branch**  
115 Courthouse Drive  
Benton | 71006  
318.965.2751

**Haughton Branch**  
116 West McKinley  
Haughton | 71037  
318.949.0196

**Tooke Branch**  
451 Fairview Point Road  
Elm Grove | 71051  
318.987.3915

**Central Library**  
2206 Beckett Street  
Bossier City | 71111  
318.746.1693

**History Center**  
2206 Beckett Street  
Bossier City | 71111  
318.746.7717

**Online**  
[www.bossierlibrary.org](http://www.bossierlibrary.org)  
[@bossierlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/bossierlibrary)



**Use the QR Code below to access our full website calendar of events!**

