

# The Ocean Springs Municipal Library Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1



01 January, 2026/Vol.003

## BOOK CLUB READS

BOOK  
OF THE  
MONTH

### THE STRANGER BESIDE ME

**TED BUNDY**: The Classic Story  
of Seduction and Murder

ANN RULE



### THE STRANGER BESIDE ME

by ANN RULE

WE WOULD SURELY KNOW IF A  
MONSTER LIVED AMONG US, WORKED  
ALONGSIDE OF US, APPEARED AS ONE  
OF US... WOULDN'T WE?

"With a slow chill that intensifies with each heart-pounding page, Rule describes her dawning awareness that Ted Bundy, her sensitive coworker on a crisis hotline, was one of the most prolific serial killers in America." - Goodreads

[HTTPS://WWW.GOODREADS.COM/BOOK/SHOW/15654.THE\\_STRANGER\\_BESIDE\\_ME](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15654.The_Stranger_Beside_Me)

**NEXT MEETING: January 27th, 2026**

**OUR BOOK FOR FEBRUARY**  
**THE ONE HUNDRED YEARS  
OF LENNI AND MARGOT**  
by MARIANNE CRONIN



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## CHILDREN'S CORNER



Decorate masks for  
Mardi Gras next  
month!

Decorate King cakes  
to enter the drawing  
for January's gift  
basket!



Please call the library  
for more information.

Jan. 24th  
10am-12pm



Jan. 21st  
5-6pm



Jan. 6th and 20th  
3:30-5PM



Join us every Wednesday  
at 10am for Pre-K  
Storytime.

Open to all ages from babies to elementary school-aged children. We have stories, songs, flannel boards and crafts. We look forward to seeing you there!

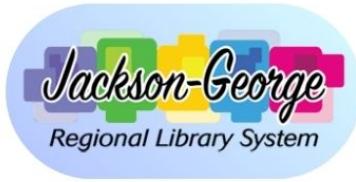


Lap-sit Storytime

A weekly program for our smallest tots and their parents. Join us on **Tuesdays at 11am** for songs, fingerplay and board books.

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2026 is here, and the Ocean Springs Municipal Library is ready!

Here's a look at what we have planned this month:

### MONDAY MYSTERY SOCIETY @ THE TRAVELER

The next meeting of the Monday Mystery Society @ The Traveler will be on **Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**, solving *The Artist* by Deadbolt Mystery Society! **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please give us a call to sign up!

### BLACK HEARTS BOOK CLUB

Starting this month is a new book club for romance lovers! Focusing on romance novels with a spicy edge, the Black Hearts Book Club will have its first meeting on **Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm**.

### LEARN FROM A MASTER GARDENER

Join Master Gardener, retired horticulturist, and instructor, Dr. Wayne Porter, as he shares his experience and skills to help community members, regardless of whether amateur or informed, gain new insights and methods to grow and harvest healthy and plentiful plants. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please give us a call to sign up! **Meeting every other Saturday starting January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am.**

### MONTHLY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

- **Watercolor Class** - Second Mondays at 10am
- **All Abilities Story Time** - TBA for January!

**New!** **Black Hearts Book Club** - Second Tuesdays at 5pm

- **Teatime Crafternoon** - Fourth Tuesdays at 2pm
- **Evening Book Club** - Fourth Tuesdays at 5pm
- **Mah Jongg Club** - All Thursdays 3pm-5pm
- **Monthly Bingo** - Third Thursdays at 2pm
- **Cookbook Club** - Third Saturdays at 12pm



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## Community Outreach

**Dec. 1 - Senior Memory Cafe (515 Washington Ave.)** - Winter Solstice was our subject. In January we will be taking a **Polar Ice Plunge**. Contact OS Library or OS Senior Center for date.

**Dec. 8 - Senior Memory Cafe @ Truewood by Merrill (1260 Ocean Springs Rd.)** - Winter festivals was the topic. We'll be visiting again on Jan. 12, 2026 for a Polar Ice Plunge.

**Dec. 9 - Ocean Springs Tree Lighting** - Several OS Library Staff went out for the re-scheduled Lighting of Ocean Springs Christmas Tree downtown. We gave out Make-N-Take Crafts & Holiday Coloring Sheets. We also had over 250 people visit our table to make a custom ornament to hang up on their tree. We also gave away many entries for the Senior Giving Tree Program.

**Dec. 18 - Senior Giving Tree** - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Senior Giving Tree Program hosted by the OS Library & the OS Senior Center. Gifts were wrapped by the Friends of the Ocean Springs Municipal Library. The Seniors had a special tour of the library, including the Mississippi Room. They enjoyed a special BINGO BANGO, hosted by Ms. Bobbie. We would like to thank Laurie Porco, Senior Center Specialist Manager & her staff for partnering with us all year. The Senior Center is under the umbrella of Community Action of South Mississippi and supported by the Dept. of Human Services.



### IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

**January 8<sup>th</sup> - Friends of the Library Meeting** will be held in the Meeting Room at the OS Library **@11:30am**. Upcoming Meeting Dates: **Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> & Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 2026**.

**Would you like to become a Friend of OS Library? Ask the front desk for details.**

### EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

Do you have a collection or any interesting hobby? Contact us by phone or email our manager, Jim Thompson, at **osmgr@jgrls.org**. We would love to have your display for the community to enjoy.

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### A BIT OF FUN

# JANUARY

B L I Z Z A R D Z H V G L N I  
E R A Q H J G A R N E T T R C  
V N A Q U A R I U S D Z K Y I  
V W C A P R I C O R N K T M C  
M I K J R E S O L U T I O N L  
L N J A N U A R Y S Y Y O D E  
K T F A U L D L A N G S Y N E  
D E S I N N F I R E W O R K S  
A R C C C M I D N I G H T E A  
Y Y A E O E A S W E A T E R Q  
C U R F L T I Z Z E L W F Y I  
O G F E D S S N O W D R O P C  
C T H I B E R N A T I O N M Y  
O K Q E T Y J Z F S X O V U D  
A D Z N E W Y E A R S T Z Z G

**Aquarius**  
**Auld Lang Syne**  
**Blizzard**  
**Capricorn**  
**Cocoa**

**Cold**  
**Fireworks**  
**Garnet**  
**Hibernation**  
**Ice**

**Icicle**  
**January**  
**Midnight**  
**MLK Day**  
**New Years**

**Resolution**  
**Scarf**  
**Snowdrop**  
**Sweater**  
**Winter**

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## FOR YOUNG ADULTS

### TEEN BOOK CLUB

JAN. 22nd  
5:30pm

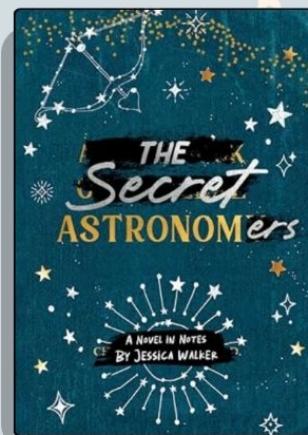
SEE YOU THERE!

TO BE ANNOUNCED!



FEBRUARY 21st @ 10AM

### NEW BOOK LOOK!



**THE SECRET ASTRONOMERS**  
By: Jessica Walker



RETURNS JANUARY 14th  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Need service hours for school? Teen Volunteers needed!  
Please inquire at the library or give us a call at 228-875-1193.