

Jackson Hinds Library System expands e-resources

Special to The Clinton Courier

All Jackson Hinds Library System (JHLS) library cardholders, which includes Quisenberry Library cardholders, are now able to access a new wealth of free digital services that include eBooks, e-audios and digital magazines.

“We are very excited to offer this amazing new package of eBooks, e-Audios and digital magazines to all of our customers,” said JHLS Executive Director Patty Furr. “I know that many of our library users have been paying for these kinds of resources out of their own pocket. Now, you can save a great deal of money by using your traditional JHLS library card for our new digital library resources.”

The new JHLS services include a unique eBook package with over 319,000 titles offered through the popular Hoopla interface. The service is available by downloading the Hoopla app or by visiting the Hoopla website. Once a patron registers their user name, password, library card number and PIN, the service is free and easy to use.

“I know our customers are going to appreciate having the Hoopla eB-

ook program from the Mississippi Library Commission as a free trial through the end of next June,” said Furr. “This resource has an incredibly wide selection of titles that include Spanish language books, classics, bestsellers, urban fiction and even Sesame Street children’s books. Through this innovative state-wide program, our customers can download three titles a month for free with their JHLS library card.”

“One of the greatest features of these digital resources is that you will never owe an overdue fine or fee for checking these items out,” said Furr. “The books and e-audios are all simultaneous use, with no holds or waiting for someone else to finish the books. You just find the title you want, and download it instantly.”

Whether the library system will continue this service past June and/or add other Hoopla services like streaming videos, comics, etc. will depend on customer interest and having some additional financial support. The simultaneous use aspect of the service makes it ideal for book clubs or those in classrooms to all read the same book at once. Each reader can download a copy of

the book as needed. Hoopla offers a book club title every quarter, with book club discussions sheets available for club or classroom use.

JHLS is also substantially expanding the number of e-Audio books.

“We are seeing more and more demand for e-Audios, as our customers are listening to books while they travel, relax or even exercise,” said Furr. “As people get busier, they are learning that e-Audios can allow them to listen to the books that they may not always have time to read.”

The new subscription through RBDigital allows JHLS cardholders to have access to 2,500 individual titles that are predominantly bestsellers and award winners. They are also offered with simultaneous use, no holds or waiting.

RBDigital also offers digital magazines for JHLS customers. There are over twenty popular titles such as *Newsweek*, *National Geographic*, *O, Men’s Health*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Popular Science*, *PC World*, *Yoga*, *Men’s Health*, *InTouch Weekly*, *HGTV*, *Woman’s Day*, *Prevention*, *Vogue*, *Marie Claire*, *Smithsonian*, *MacWorld* and many others.

“All of the information that you

might have purchased in a print magazine before is now available in digital format for free with your library card,” said Furr. “You just put in your library card and PIN number, and download the title or titles you are interested in reading. The service will even remind you when a new issue comes out.”

“I hope that all Hinds County residents will stop in at their local library and get their free library card, which will allow you to sign up for these popular e-Resources,” Furr said. “If you have not visited the library in some time, I would urge you to stop in and make sure your library card is up-to-date and that you know your four-digit PIN number, which is needed to register for these new services. Once you have signed up for a library card, you can use it for an entire year before you need to visit your local library and renew your card.”

Those from outside Hinds County can purchase a non-resident card for \$25 a year or a family card for \$50 a year. For more information, visit www.jhlibrary.org or call the Quisenberry Library at 601-924-5684 or visit the library at 605 East Northside Drive.



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