

THE
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THE *Bolton* NEWS

Get to know your Bolton library

The Bolton News

Over the years, Alfenette Robinson has witnessed many changes at the Annie T. Jeffers Library in Bolton, Mississippi, where she serves as manager.

In 2000, the library doubled in size after additional space was acquired. It was transformed from a single storefront building to a wide open-spaced facility with ample room for patrons to sit and read, for clubs to hold meetings, and for children to enjoy story time and other activities in a newly-added children's section.

"In recent years, technological advances have made it possible for all libraries in the Jackson/Hinds Library System (JHLS) to add new services and resources: computers, wi-fi, e-books and audiobooks, apps, and subscriptions to several great online resources," said Robinson.

Patrons can enjoy free digital options with their JHLS library card and PIN. Patrons may also print from one of the library's public computers and send faxes for a reasonable price.

The library's name-sake is the late Annie Laura Thompson Jeffers, who served as librarian for fifteen years and is mother of Congressman Bennie Thompson, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The library is part of the Jackson/Hinds Library System, website, www.JHLibrary.org.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced all libraries in JHLS to make sweeping changes. Some previously in-person activities have been placed on hold indefinitely; others have continued, but are virtual-only.



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Alfenette Robinson, manager of the Annie T. Jeffers Library

The 2021 Summer Reading Program featured a number of virtual activities and events, with crafts, goody bags, awards and prizes being picked up at the library.

"Everyone loved the crafts and goody bags, as well as the online virtual activities," said Robinson. "Azalea Singleton was the Top Reader for Bolton in the JHLS Summer Reading program. She won Malco movie passes, new books, a Google prize pack and Funtime Skateland passes."

As of August 1, some COVID-19 restrictions still apply. Patrons may use the computers inside the library for up to two hours, and they may browse and check out books. But club meetings, kids' group activities and so on cannot yet be held inside the library.

"Curbside service is available, as well

as free wi-fi," said Robinson. "You can park outside the library building to use the free wi-fi."

September is Library Card Sign-up Month. JHLS library cards are free to residents of Hinds County. Robinson urges everyone to get their card today.

"Bolton Friends of the Library (FOL) is a group of citizens who love and support our library," said Robinson. "FOL holds a fund-raiser or two each year: book sales, cookie swaps... Anyone can join Friends of the Library, and the group would love to have new members! A meeting will be held at the Library on Tuesday, September 28, at 10 a.m., and everyone who is interested is invited to attend."

When asked what she loves most about her job, Robinson said, "I love seeing children with their first library card. I en-

joy meeting and talking with people and helping them find what they need. And it means so much when parents bring their children and tell us, 'I used to come here when I was a child. Now I am grown and bringing my kids.'"

When asked what she misses the most from the pre-COVID days, Robinson is quick to respond: "In-person story time with the kids. I will be very happy when we are able to resume in-person story time at the library."^[SEP]

Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.; and on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

For more information, call 601- 866-4247, visit www.JHLibrary.org, or stop by the Annie T. Jeffers Library at 111 West Madison Street in Bolton.



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Susie Carter and Chelsi Chatman visited the library on Snapshot Day

Bolton schools ready for fall semester

By Guest Columnist Lashum Williams, Principal at Bolton-Edwards Elementary and Middle School

Parents of elementary and middle school students (pre-K through eighth grade): watch your mailbox the first few days of August for a letter that provides the day and time of your appointment for a parent-teacher conference at the school.

Your child's teacher will meet with you on either August 6 or August 9, before students return to classes on August 11. If you have not received your letter in the mail by August 4, and you have not heard from the school by telephone, please call 601-866-2523 to find out the day and time of your appointment.

The first day of school for students is Wednesday, August 11.

It is going to be a great year, and we can't wait to see you at BEEMS!

To view school supply lists on your smartphone when you are shopping for school supplies for an elementary or middle school student, in your internet browser, go to www.BoltonMS.com. Look for the July 13 post, "School Supply Lists for the New School Year," and click on it. Scroll until you see the grade that you need (e.g. "First Grade Supply List.") Click that button, and the list should be displayed!

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