Library Hours

Sunday
3:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Monday – Thursday
7:30 am – 11:00 pm

Friday
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday—CLOSED

Note: For changes to the schedule due to holidays, emergency closures, or departmental exceptions please see the library website or contact 985-448-4660.

All patrons are asked to leave the library 15 minutes prior to closing.

New Faces at Ellender Library

2012 has been a year of changes and improvements for Ellender Memorial Library, including some additions to the faculty and staff. New employees have been added to each floor of the library: Government Information (3rd floor), Access Services (2nd floor), and Cataloging (1st floor).

A Houma native, Hayley Johnson, is now the Government Information Librarian. She is a graduate of South Terrebonne High School and received her B.A. in English from Nicholls. Johnson’s postgraduate education includes a master’s degree in English from Southeastern and a MLIS degree from LSU. Before joining the faculty at Nicholls, she worked at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge as the Fiscal Division Librarian. At the Capitol, she worked with state documents, indexed, and researched for staff and attorneys. Her experience is a welcome addition to Ellender Library. In Government Information, she assists patrons with resources such as federal and state documents, legal materials, census information, maps and posters, and ERIC information.

April Rome can be found where most students are looking—with the books. This Thibodaux High School graduate calls Chackbay her hometown. Rome attended Nicholls where she graduated with a B.A. in Mass Communications and Public Relations; she later returned and earned a teaching certification in Special Education. Prior to her job in the library, she worked in the newsroom as a copy editor at the Daily Comet and Houma Courier. During her employment with the newspapers, she won multiple design and layout awards from the Associated Press. Some of her many duties include working with Interlibrary Loan and Reserves, checking out books, helping students find what they need in the stacks, and managing the library’s new and improved Facebook page. She wants patrons to know, “If you have any questions, don’t be afraid to ask. We’re here to help you.”

Tucked in a corner on the first floor is the Cataloging Department along with one of its latest additions to the staff, Brandy Burbante. She graduated from Morgan City High School and earned a B.A. in English Education from Nicholls. Since joining the library staff, Burbante feels that she has finally found her calling and plans...
LC Classification

By Daisy Guidroz (Library Specialist)

The Library of Congress reclassification project is nearing its first year mark. During this year, the Reference collection, Leisure collection, as well as, the 000s, 100s, 200s, and the beginning of the 300s in our regular collection have been converted from the Dewey Decimal classification to Library of Congress.

The Library of Congress classification system has twenty-one subject categories, and the call numbers have a combination of letters and numbers. This is in contrast to the numeric call numbers of the Dewey Decimal system.

It has been a challenging year learning this new system and developing new work flow, but the Cataloging Department has accepted the challenge willingly, and we are preceding full steam ahead.

Freedom to Consume

For those unaware, there was a time when one would enter Ellender Library and be faced with signs of prohibition in most areas: no eating or drinking allowed. Those times are gone, and new signs have appeared. These signs offer a glimmer of freedom, a feeling of responsibility, and a list of “DOs” and “DON'Ts” of consumption. Patrons can enjoy snacks and drinks in most areas of the library as long as those snacks are small (think vending machine sized), and the drinks are in “spill-proof” or “spill-resistant” containers.

As stated in the official Ellender Library Drink and Food Policy, “‘Spill Proof’ means the beverage container [i] has a cover with a tiny sipping hole (such as a coffee top but not a soft drink can), [ii] has a small cap that is removed for consumption and resealed between drinks (such as a screw-top soft drink bottle), and [iii] is not so large that it is likely the cover or cap will pop off if the container falls over and/or down.” In addition, if a drink has a cover with a straw inserted, it is considered to be “spill resistant.”

Even though food and drink liberties can be enjoyed in most areas of the library, the Archives and Special Collections department is still off limits. For example, food and drinks should not be consumed around the electronic equipment (computers, printers, scanners, etc…). Also, a “Box” combo from Raising Canes is not a snack, and of course, no alcoholic beverages; since, this is the library, not the Colonel’s Retreat. When in doubt, ask a staff or faculty member for clarification, but if the new policy continues to be followed, then we can all keep enjoying our freedom to consume.

New Employees

Continued from page 1 to begin working on a master’s degree in Library and Information Science in the near future. In Cataloging, Burbante works “behind the scenes” ensuring that the library’s catalog databases are accurate and consistent by editing, withdrawing holdings, and upgrading/imputing bibliographic records. She also has a hand in printing and attaching labels for items in the collection as well as co-managing the library’s Facebook page and newsletter.

From China and Canada, to Thibodaux, Wei Lu has undergone quite a journey that has landed her in the Cataloging Department of Ellender Library. In China, she earned her undergraduate degrees which include a B.A. in English Language and Literature, as well as a B.A. in Information Management. She then received her master’s degree in Library and Information Science from State University of New York. Lu’s professional experiences include working in academic and research libraries, a library service company, and bank systems in China, Canada, and the United States. Since she is interested in information retrieval systems and digital libraries, Lu will play a part in making sure the library stays up to speed technologically as the new Cataloging and Systems Librarian.

DVDs available for check out on the 2nd floor

Be on the look out for the sign pictured above

Au Revoir

After thirty-one and one half years of service, Angela Graham retired this past June from Nicholls. Graham worked as a Library Specialist Supervisor in Government Information at Ellender Memorial Library. We would like to thank her for the many years of dedicated service and wish her a great retirement!
Welcome Back Day: Three-peat

What do fitness guru Richard Simmons, nursery rhymes, and Ellender Memorial Library have in common? All came together for a grand display of spirit, creativity, and information during Nicholls State’s Welcome Back Day held September 13, 2012. Along with other departments and student groups, the library participated in this annual event focusing on showing off all the university has to offer. Despite a postponement due to Hurricane Isaac and the heat, the library took home a trophy for the third year in a row by winning the Most Spirited University Department Contest.

“Fit to be a Colonel” was this year’s theme, and the staff proved they had the muscle to be deemed “Most Spirited.” Staff member Danny Gorr stole the show with his impersonation of Richard Simmons. He led other library volunteers in various dances that mimicked exercise moves, which prompted participation from students. Staff members Cheryl Adams, Sandi Chauvin, Deannie Eusea, and April Rome dressed up as nursery rhyme favorites: the “Cat and the Fiddle,” and the “Three Blind Mice.” They cheered on participants of the Nursery Rhyme Games: “Jack Be Nimble” Candlestick Jumping” and the “Dish Ran Away with the Spoon’ Races.” Whether it was by planning and organizing, actively participating, making treats, or decorating the booth, many of the library’s faculty and staff played a role for this event. Special thanks to all for making this event successful and securing the trophy for another year: Van Viator, Cheryl Adams, Brandy Burbante, Sandi Chauvin, Deannie Eusea, Danny Gorr, Daisy Guidroz, Neil Guilbeau, Jolene Knight, Cynthia Marchbanks, Lady Pierson, April Rome, Anke Tonn, and Ryan Landry.

LIBRARY BRINGS ONLINE TUTORIAL TO STUDENTS

Van Viator, the head of Research/Bibliographic Instruction, has devised an online tutorial that will help students search the library’s online card catalog for books and journals. Google research tips are also given. The library’s collection of 65,000 electronic books are highlighted, and journal databases are covered. Many of the articles found in the databases are available in full text enabling the student to print the journal articles from their computers. The video demonstration lasts approximately 25 minutes. It was created using CamStudio Software, http://camstudio.org, which is a free tool.

Viator guides the student through searching the various library resources, and the viewer can actually watch as he conducts his searches. The video can be accessed from the library’s homepage under “Searching Resources: Tutorial,” as pictured in the screenshot to the right. The viewer will then be taken to a YouTube video link. Viator commented, “The tutorial will not substitute for actual hands-on practice but will serve as a great introduction to searching some of our online resources and give the student confidence for searching the sources on their own.” He maintains that with the library’s online resources rapidly changing, the video will be updated periodically, and he hopes to make other teaching videos in the future.
Faculty, staff, friends, and family enjoyed the library’s games at the university’s annual Family Day on November 3, 2012. Staff members Debbie Adams, Brandy Burbante, Lady Pierson, and April Rome enthusiastically lead participants of all ages in the games: “Water Ring Toss” and “Pick a Pop or Pull a Pencil.” Visitors to the booth won prizes and had their pictures taken, which are posted on the library’s Facebook page.

Cheryl Adams (Reserves), Dr. Robert Bremer (Director), Brandy Burbante (Cataloging), William Charron (Systems Management), Sandi Chauvin (Archives), Deannie Eusea (Access Services), Danny Gorr (Serials), Daisy Guidroz (Cataloging), Neil Guilbeau (Archives), Hayley Johnson (Government Information), Joelle Knight (Cataloging), Wei Lu (Cataloging), April Rome (Access Services), Lynette Tamplein (Gov. Information), Anke Tonn (Access Services), and Van Viator (Reference) attended the Louisiana Library Network LOUIS Users Conference (LUC) in October.

Some faculty and staff members of Ellender Library attended the dedication ceremony of the Harold J. Callais Memorial Recreation Center on September 21, 2012. For many, the center has been a much-anticipated addition to Nicholls State’s campus.


Ellender Memorial Library has more to offer than just books. Now we have a way to show you what we have with just a “click.” In trying to keep pace with the digital age, the library now has its own Facebook page. From new books, to group study sessions, to book guessing games, to skeletons and body parts (false, of course) that can be checked out to study, the page aims to give students a variety of items.

Here’s a glimpse of what you can find on the site:
- Hours of operation
- Physical address
- Telephone numbers
- Links to our sister sites
- New books
- Student involvement
- Book guessing games
- Community events/information

News events, today in history or wacky holidays also may be posted (with examples of books to help you learn more about the topics). Want to check it out for yourself? Go to www.facebook.com/nichollslibrary and “like” the page. Now you can “check in” and check out what we have to offer.

Below: a few pictures from Ellender Library’s Facebook page.

The Archives & Special Collections Dept. at Ellender Memorial Library is creating an oral history collection featuring veterans residing in this region. The collection includes videotaped interviews, biographies, photographs, and documents related to their military experience. If you know a veteran who might be interested in being interviewed for this project, please contact Neil Guilbeau (985-493-2639) neil.guilbeau@nicholls.edu.