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<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
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<td>Black History Movie @ 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Mardi Gras craft 4—5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Mardi Gras craft 4—5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
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<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
<td>Stained Glass Craft for kids @ 4PM</td>
<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
<td>Story Time @ 9:30a.m.</td>
<td>Black History Movie @ 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
<td>Art with Annabel 6—8 p.m.</td>
<td>Story Time @ 10:30a.m.</td>
<td>Story Time @ 9:30a.m.</td>
<td>Black History Bingo for kids @ 4 p.m.</td>
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**New Titles**

**Knowledge. Connection. Community**

Jessica McGrath, Director

Knowledge. Connection. Community = Whether you use the library’s services at home, on the road, in person, or online, these three words embody the mission of the Natchitoches Parish Library. In developing the library’s new logo and tagline, words and pictures were thrown around to describe the library, and we kept coming back to these.

Knowledge. In a world where an overwhelming amount of information is at your fingertips, who is there to guide you in using these resources wisely? Who is there to help you carve an accurate, unbiased path to knowledge? Your public library. No matter your age, race, circumstances, background, socioeconomic status, education, or religion, your public library is there to offer up the world’s information to you. The playing field is leveled at the library. Access to this lifetime of learning can be found for all ages through the library’s traditional print and e-book collections, homebound service, summer reading club, after-school events, online databases, adult technology classes, and early literacy programs. The library provides opportunities for people of all ages to discover the joy of reading and learning.

Connection. More than a quarter of U.S. households do not have a computer with Internet access. The public library helps to bridge that gap. Library patrons use public computers to complete online applications, type up their resumes, research their genealogy, or browse the Internet. Remotely or in-house, online databases offer opportunities to download e-books, movies, and music, learn a new language, access a variety of educational and career practice tests, receive real-time online tutoring, download and print Louisiana legal forms, get step-by-step service and repair procedures to tackle vehicle maintenance, and research and compare products and services through Consumer Reports. The goal of connecting patrons to current technology, online resources, and relevant training is to improve information literacy throughout the community.

Community. Making a difference for community members is the responsibility of every staff member at the library. We are the community we serve, and we strive each day to establish a library connection that is relevant for residents across the parish – visiting the bookmobile where staff know you and your reading preferences, learning a new language through the library’s Pronunciator database, building relationships with other families through story time, utilizing your talents by teaching a class at the library, bringing in your e-reader for a one-on-one Overdrive tutorial, or making family memories during an art program.

The library provides equitable access to information, experiences, and community space. That’s what we’re about. We are proud to be centered in the heart of Natchitoches but also anticipate the library “branching out,” in the parish. Reignite your passion for the library – you never know what you might discover!
Northeast Library

The Natchitoches Parish Library is celebrating the start of 2016 with the opening of the highly anticipated Northeast branch in Campti, LA, on January 25, 2016. The building, located at 3129 Highway 71 in Campti, was designed by architect George Minturn and features distinct angles and an abundance of windows. The high ceilings and exposed beams mimic the main branch windows. The high ceilings and exposed beams mimic the main branch windows. The branch also features adult, young adult, and children spaces, ADA accessibility, 10 adult & 4 children's public access computers, and WiFi capability. The services offered at the Northeast Branch will mimic those at the Main Library and are free of charge to all parish residents. Programming, including weekly story time and Summer Reading, will also be provided for patrons at the Northeast branch.

NPL Staff Spotlight: Programmer/Reference Assistant Martha Uchino

Having recently returned from a year in the rural mountains of Japan, I again have the opportunity to serve the patrons at Natchitoches Parish Library, this time as Programmer/Reference Services Assistant. Previously, I was your Children’s Librarian for nearly 10 years. A Louisiana native, I was born with an insatiable curiosity for "what's out there," and my favorite childhood book was the world atlas. After high school, I headed west for the mountains of Colorado and Montana, where I lived for several years, and graduated university in the sandhills of western Nebraska.

I have lived in Japan three times, where I taught English and married my Japanese husband Tetsuro. Subsequently, I will always have one foot in Japan. On a shoestring, I have traveled to 13 countries, and will, undoubtedly, be found in the travel section of the library, imagining the next great adventure.

For now, Tetsuro and I are back in Louisiana to tackle another fixer-upper and enjoy kitty adventures with our Natchitoches-born fur babies—Miko, Mani, and Fuji-hana—who could meow all about riding the Japanese bullet train!

Let’s share our multicultural experiences at the Natchitoches Parish Library. I look forward to meeting you and learning what the library can do to help enrich our community.

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