



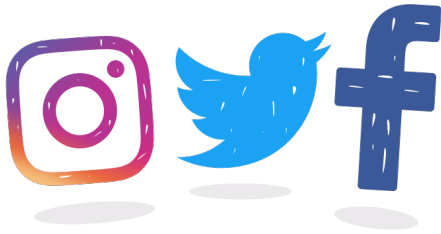
Books and Bytes *on the Bayou*

A Lafourche Parish Public Library Publication

November 2023



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Follow us on social media (@lafourchelib) and at lafourche.org for current news, services, programs, photos, and more!

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STAFF STARS!



Brittany Jackson

Congratulations to Brittany, Thibodaux Branch Associate, for being recognized as a Staff Star this month!

"I just wanted Brittany to know that she is excellent at her job. She went beyond expectations to help me!"

- *Judith Brining, Patron*

Lori Olin

Congratulations to Lori, Bayou Blue Branch Manager, for being recognized as a Staff Star this month!



"Lori is a hard-working library staff member & a wonderful senior yoga leader. It's such a joy to have her at our Bayou Blue Library. Our Bayou Blue area is thankful for her!"

- *Cathy Rochelle, Patron*

**DO YOU KNOW A STAFF STAR?
ASK FOR A NOMINATION FORM AT ANY
BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK!**



Library Closure

All Lafourche Parish Public Library branches will close at 4 PM on Wednesday, November 22 & will remain closed through Saturday, November 25. Our digital library is always open at lafourche.org.

Time to Fall Back!

It's that time! Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5. Set your clocks back & enjoy that extra hour of reading!



THE *It's Going To Be HUGE ...* DINOSAUR EXPERIENCE



READY, SET, ROAR!

The Jurassic experience is coming to Lafourche Parish Public Library in celebration of Dinovember! Meet & touch a dino at this T-Rexcellent show!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

NORTH:

10 AM

Harang Auditorium

CENTRAL:

1 PM

Lockport Community Center

SOUTH:

4 PM

Cut Off Youth Center



BAYOU STEM PRESENTS

TASTEBUD TRICKERY

& Turkeybots

& Owl Diets

THANKSGIVING STEAM!

Trick your tastebuds into making sour foods sweet
Create a Turkeybot

Trick your tastebuds into making sour foods sweet
Explore the diets of owls by dissecting owl pellets

For K-3 Grade
3:30 - 5 PM

LAROSE: Wed, 11/1
GHEENS: Wed, 11/29
LOCKPORT: Thu, 11/30

For 4-8 Grade
3:30 - 5 PM

THIBODAUX: Wed, 11/15

**Registration Required*

ADOPTION DAY!

WITH LAFOURCHE PARISH ANIMAL SHELTER



CHECK OUT
The Shelter's new mobile unit & pets for adoption!

CREATE A PET-THEMED CRAFT WITH US!

PLUS, FREE MICROCHIPS & PET ID TAGS!



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 @ 3-6 PM
Lockport Branch Library
720 Crescent Ave, Lockport, LA



Thank you for your service!



VETERANS DAY @ THE LIBRARY

THIBODAUX: Veterans Day Breakfast
Tue, 11/7 @ 9:30 AM

LOCKPORT: Veterans Day Luncheon
Thu, 11/9 @ 11:30 AM

CRAFTS

RACELAND: Patriotic Star Wreath for Teens
Mon, 11/6 @ 4 PM

BAYOU BLUE: Poppy Craft for Kids
Tue, 11/7 @ 3:45 PM

GHEENS: Patriotic Mason Jars for Adults
Thu, 11/9 @ 10 AM



Thanks Giving

Dinner Conversation

IS SERVED!

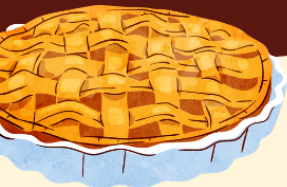
SHARE THE STORY OF YOUR FAMILY'S HISTORY WITH ANCESTRY.COM!

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library edition





Brooke



Read-Alike



The Christmas Wish
By Lindsey Kelk

Infusing the romance of the Christmas season with the humor of *Groundhog Day* and a dash of *Bridget Jones's* hopelessness, Kelk delivers an utterly adorable rom-com.

"I wish it could be Christmas every day ... or not? Lindsey Kelk is here with a delightfully humorous holiday read! Surprisingly enough, despite being amusing, this novel, in which a 30-something woman relives a cringe-worthy Christmas Day over & over again, is also incredibly insightful. After a disastrous Christmas Day, Gwen Baker, newly single by way of a cheating boyfriend & unsure about her career future at her prestigious law firm, wakes up to discover it is Christmas Day ... over & over again. How many times can Gwen relive all of her Christmas nightmares before she gets it right? Kelk masterfully mixes humor & heart in *The Christmas Wish!* When you throw family together at the holidays, tensions are bound to run high, & Kelk perfectly captures all of these merry mishaps in her book. Main character Gwen is witty, funny, & slightly self-destructive, & it's a lot of fun watching her live Christmas Day on repeat, getting it drastically wrong every time. As she searches for her truth in each Christmas scenario, Gwen discovers what she truly wants out of life, making this introspective novel a great transition read to go from the joys of Christmas to the fresh starts of the New Year."

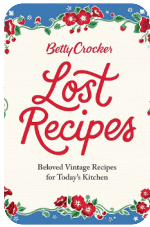
GENRE: Romantic Comedies
THEME: Time Loop

STORYLINE: Character-Driven
CHARACTER: Likeable

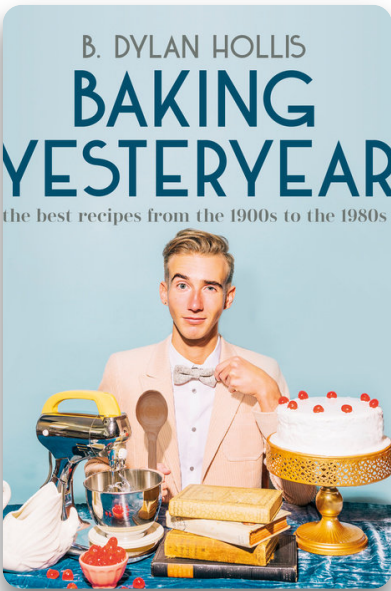
TOPE: Funny; Heartwarming; Upbeat
WRITING STYLE: Engaging



Heather



Read-Alike



Baking Yesteryear
By B. Dylan Hollis

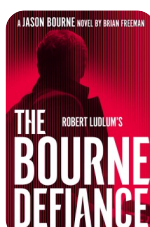
A decade-by-decade cookbook that highlights the best (and a few of the worst) baking recipes from the 20th century.

"Eggs, moo juice, & floop powder, oh my! TikTok star B. Dylan Hollis is the baking wizard taking us back with recipes of the past in his cookbook *Baking Yesteryear*. Hollis has built his platform by recreating recipes from old cookbooks throughout the decades. His cookbook combines recipes from as early as the 1900s & continuing each decade ending in the 1980s. The book begins with Dylan's story, baking terms needed to complete the recipes in the book, as well as utensils & different types of ingredients needed for the recipes. Each chapter features some of his favorite recipes from each decade, & even includes a section on the worst recipes he has tried, including jellied meatloaf! All of the recipes feature simple ingredients & detailed, but easy-to-understand directions. Some of them are more classic, while others are out there & include some non-typical ingredients. Overall, this cookbook would be great for anyone from the experienced baker to those just learning. It's also great for someone like me who is a follower of Dylan's & has seen him prepare some of these recipes. Now his followers can try to make them too. I'm not sure if I'll be making pork cake anytime soon, but I sure will be trying to create some of these unique recipes of the past!"

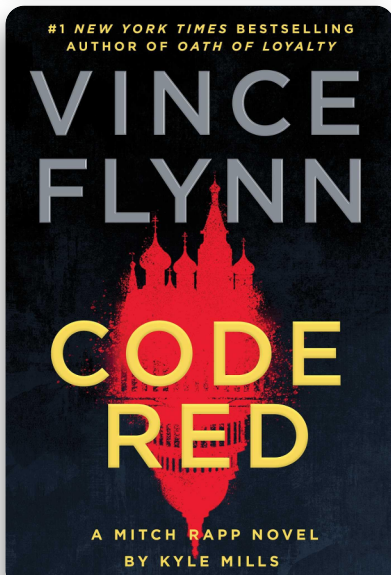
GENRE: Cookbooks



Lionie



Read-Alike



Code Red
By Kyle Mills

Mitch Rapp crosses into war-torn Syria at the behest of a powerful crime lord to determine who is manufacturing a highly addictive new narcotic in the latest addition to the long-running series following *Oath of Loyalty*.

"*Code Red* is Book #22 in the ongoing *Mitch Rapp* series & it doesn't disappoint fans. Rapp owes a favor to a lethal enemy & it's time to repay it. Damian Losa requires Rapp to infiltrate what appears to be a Syrian government drug operation. As Rapp fights his way through the bad guys, he realizes that everything they thought that they knew was wrong. Now it's up to Rapp to take down the enemy alone. READ THIS BOOK! This was another riveting tale in the saga that is *Mitch Rapp's* life. Mills' use of asymmetrical warfare was enlightening. It gave me a whole new way of thinking about the world. Rapp is such a complex, dynamic character that the reader can't help but root for him. I thoroughly enjoyed the entire book & can't wait for the next one. This was Kyle Mills' last installment of the *Mitch Rapp* legacy by Vince Flynn. Mills took over the character after Vince Flynn passed away & wrote books 14-22. Mills is handing the baton to fellow author Don Bentley. The legacy will live on, which is wonderful news for fans like me!"

GENRE: Political Thrillers; Spy Fiction

STORYLINE: Action-Packed
PACE: Fast-Paced

TOPE: Suspenseful; Violent
WRITING STYLE: Gritty

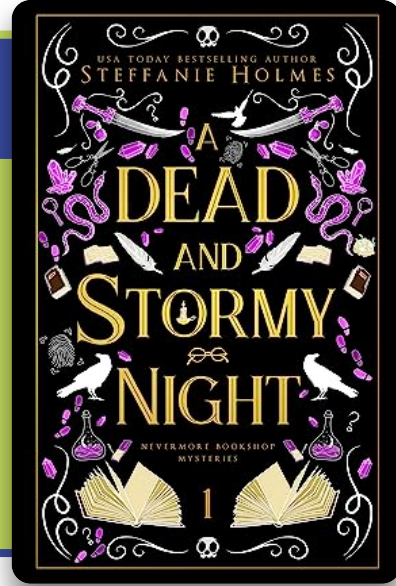


A Dead and Stormy Night By Steffanie Holmes

Book boyfriends may do it better, but they're more trouble than they're worth.

"A Dead & Stormy Night by Steffanie Holmes is the first book in the *Nevermore Bookshop Mysteries* series. After being passed over for her fashion dream job in New York City & finding out that she has a degenerative eye disease that will cause her to go blind, Mina Wilde returns to the sleepy village in England where she grew up. There, she takes a job at the Nevermore Bookshop, where she figures she can heal surrounded by her favorite books. However, the Nevermore Bookshop isn't what it seems. There's a curse on the bookshop that brings classic literature characters to life. If that wasn't strange enough, Mina's ex-best-friend ends up dead on the eaves of Nevermore Bookshop with a knife sticking out of her back. With Mina as the chief suspect, she & the shop proprietor work together to solve the murder & clear her name. I thoroughly enjoyed this audiobook. This was my first dip into the cozy mystery genre. It's every bookworm's dream to have their book boyfriends come to life, & this book does not disappoint. Along with the murder mystery, there's a little bit of spicy romance. This is a fun book, despite the main character suffering with the loss of her eyesight & murder of her ex-best friend. Holmes expertly blends the cozy murder mystery genre with fantasy romance. I look forward to more mysteries & mayhem from the *Nevermore Bookshop Mystery* series."

GENRE: Cozy Mystery Fantasy



Katie



Read-Alike



The Silver Chair By C. S. Lewis

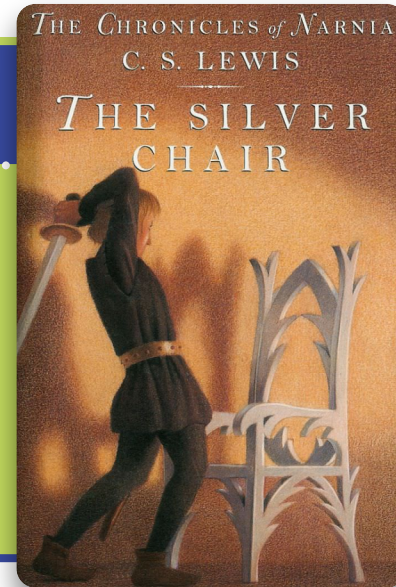
Two English school children share hair-raising adventures as they go on a search & rescue mission for the missing Prince Rilian, who is held captive in the underground kingdom of the Emerald Witch.

"The *Silver Chair*, along with the rest of the *Narnia* series, is set to be a Netflix series. Lewis took a chance with *The Silver Chair* because he dropped the Pevensie children from this story, who were heavily featured in previous books. He concentrates on Eustace (a relation to the Pevensies) & his schoolmate Jill Pole in this novel. They begin their story in Experiment House, a school that does not encourage imagination or creativity. One day, while being chased by bullies, they are transported back to Narnia. This novel definitely has the most action out of all of the *Narnia* books & indeed it never lets up. The Green Witch is an enemy to match the White Witch from earlier novels & is every bit as beautiful & evil. The Marchwiggles, the children's companion is a good foil for these characters & is comical in his own way. The two children are likable by novel's end, being both heroic & willing to sacrifice. The author's passages are clear & descriptive with enough whimsy to remind the reader this is a children's fantasy dealing with a few adult themes."

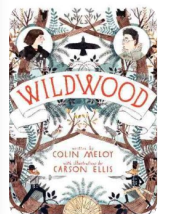
GENRE: Gateway Fantasy; Classics;
Page to Screen

STORYLINE: World-Building
TOPE: Suspenseful

THEME: To the Rescue!
WRITING STYLE: Attention-Grabbing



Van



Read-Alike



The Librarianist By Patrick deWitt

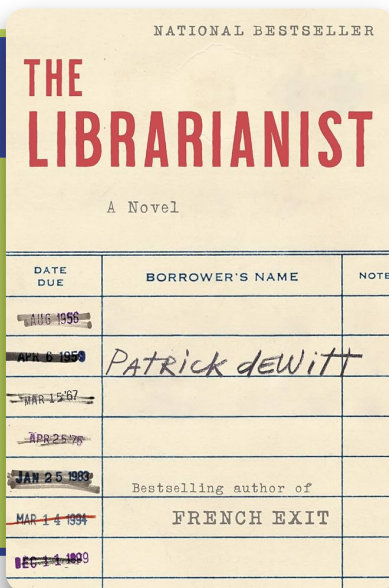
Tells the story of Bob Comet, a man who has lived his life through and for literature, unaware that his own experience is a poignant and affecting novel in itself.

"Bob Comet's is a life & was a career punctuated by routine. Bob's lifelong love of books resulted in a more than four decades-long stay at the library, with early mornings there - when it was devoid of people - his favorite part of the day. With a few bright spots along the way, Bob finds himself an aging, solitary man. During a routine walk, a chance encounter at a convenience store causes Bob to crash headlong into his past, though he doesn't realize it yet. Bob walks 'Chip' back to the assisted living center displayed on her name tag. It's the first step in allowing others back in, as he becomes closer to the center's residents, & ultimately, in reconciling his past. In *The Librarianist*, Patrick deWitt offers a tale of an ordinary man on the outside trying to reconnect. As a comet is brightest when it nears the sun, Bob Comet's light shines the greatest when his life includes & revolves around others. *The Librarianist* is a beautifully written story that will resonate with readers who will find themselves captivated by Bob's story. It's a story not unlike those in the books Bob cherished throughout his life - a story of love & friendship, of loss, & of starting over."

GENRE: Literary Fiction
AWARDS: LibraryReads Favorite

STORYLINE: Character-Driven
TOPE: Bittersweet; Moving; Reflective

WRITING STYLE: Engaging; Lyrical
PACE: Leisurely Paced



Katina



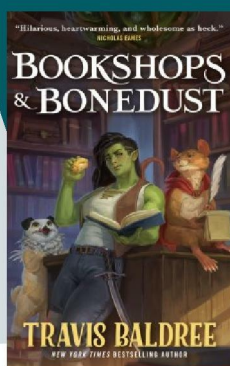
Read-Alike



November 2023

The Top Ten Adult Fiction and Nonfiction Chosen Monthly by America's Library Staff

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org



Bookshops & Bonedust
Travis Baldree
(Tor Books)

TOP PICK

In this worthy prequel to *Legends & Lattes*, a young Viv is laid up in the quiet town of Murk after her enthusiastic inexperience leads to a serious injury. She gradually assembles a group of friends including a swear-happy bookshop owner, a mercenary turned baker, and an irrepressible Gallina, eager to join Rackham's Raiders. Murk doesn't stay quiet for long with Viv around, and there's plenty of coziness in the bookshop, eating delicious baked goods, and flirting with a new friend.

—Lauren Abner, KY Dept for Libraries & Archives, KY
Novelist read-alike: *Under the Whispering Door* by TJ Klune



The Future: A Novel
Naomi Alderman
(Simon & Schuster)

What would happen if three companies (think Amazon, Facebook, and Twitter), were removed from the world and their money put to saving the planet and all of the people on it? Alderman once again places the reader in a world that is falling apart, run by greedy billionaires who don't care what damage they do as long as they keep making more money. Look into *The Future* and get an idea of how that might go.

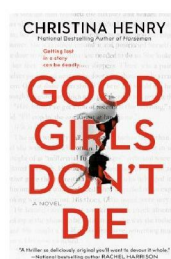
—Linda Quinn, LibraryReads Ambassador
Novelist read-alike: *Stay This Day and Night With Me* by Belén Gopegui



Day: A Novel
Michael Cunningham
(Random House)

This intimate and almost claustrophobic book follows a family on the same day in three different years: April 5th of 2019, 2020, and 2021. The story is about endings, beginnings, aging, relationships, and the impact of Covid-19. A lyrical novel, with deft prose and a focus on the internal lives of the characters. Cunningham has a gift of providing just enough detail to engage readers without weighing the prose down.

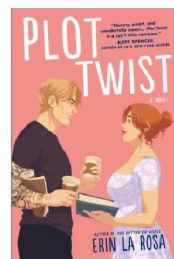
—Chad Cunningham, Monroe County Library System, NY
Novelist read-alike: *Lucy by the Sea* by Elizabeth Strout



Good Girls Don't Die
Christina Henry
(Berkley)

Celia finds herself trapped in someone else's life. Allie's birthday trip turns into a slasher fest in a cabin in the woods. Maggie is kidnapped and made to play a dangerous dystopian maze game. All three women find themselves in situations reminiscent of their favorite horror fiction, and are fighting to survive. What is really happening, and is it possible to make it out alive? A thrilling page turner.

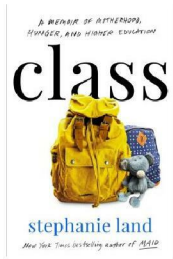
—Candice Machata, North Kingstown Free Library, RI
Novelist read-alike: *My Heart is a Chainsaw* by Stephen Graham Jones



Plot Twist
Erin La Rosa
(Canary Street Press)

Romance writer Sophie has the hots for her landlord, former indie movie star Dash. He's stand-offish, but that's because he's harboring a secret crush on her. Their paths collide when, hungover, she barfs on him. Readers will be charmed by this sexy, low-stakes romance as the relatable characters slowly build themselves up to reach for each other.

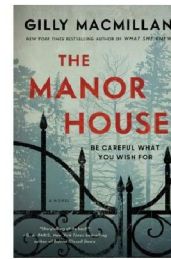
—Jennifer Rusche, William Jeanes Memorial Library, PA
Novelist read-alike: *Exes and O's* by Amy Lea



Class: A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education
Stephanie Land
(Atria/One Signal)

Life after *Maid* is where *Class* begins, and takes us to the heart of systemic inequity that exists in this country. Unflinchingly honest and gripping, this is a memoir that is either relatable, pivotal, and/or eye opening. It will change readers.

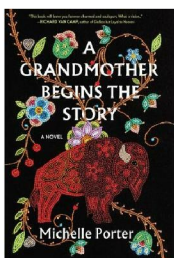
—Jessica Sweedler DeHart, Neill Public Library, WA
Novelist read-alike: *How Far to the Promised Land* by Esau McCaulley



The Manor House
Gilly Macmillan
(William Morrow)

Childhood sweethearts Nicole and Tom win the lottery and are thrust into a life of splendor, including a dreamy glass mansion. When Tom turns up dead in the pool, Nicole doesn't know whom she can trust—was Tom's death a tragic accident or is someone trying to get a piece of the winnings? Macmillan's latest is perfectly paced suspense.

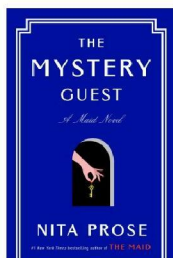
—Kaite Stover, Kansas City Public Library, MO
Novelist read-alike: *The Last Party* by Claire Mackintosh



A Grandmother Begins the Story: A Novel
Michelle Porter
(Algonquin)

A young Métis woman seeks to learn about her heritage as her mother tries to reconcile their lost years while protecting her daughter from what she perceives as the sins of her own mother. Told from the point of view of five generations of women, this is a beautiful and affecting debut.

—Jennifer Winberry, Hunterdon County Library, NJ
Novelist read-alike: *Sabrina & Corina* by Kail Fajardo-Anstine



The Mystery Guest: A Maid Novel
Nita Prose
(Ballantine Books)

When a famous author dies before he can make an important announcement about his career, Molly can't help but insert herself into the investigation. Molly and her friend Angela work to prove the author was murdered, but solving the case is not easy. Fans of the first book in this series will not be disappointed, and the ending may mean another sequel.

—Cari Dubiel, Twinsburg Public Library, OH
Novelist read-alike: *How Lucky* by Will Leitch

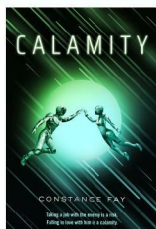


The Other Half
Charlotte Vassell
(Anchor Books)

There's something about the sleaze hidden beneath a thick veneer of lucre that is always compelling. The posh characters here are in and out of each others' pockets (and beds). When one winds up dead beneath a hedge, a trio of outsider detectives seek out who is responsible. The mystery is tied up nicely, with enough hanging threads to leave readers excited for more.

—Krista Feick, Columbus Metropolitan Library, OH
Novelist read-alike: *The Guest List* by Lucy Faley

Bonus pick:



Calamity
Constance Fay
(Bramble)

Notable Nonfiction:



Dolls of Our Lives: Why We Can't Quit American Girl
Mary Mahoney and Allison Horrocks
(Feiwel & Friends)

Photo Highlights



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Phone: 985-633-6453
Fax: 985-633-8873

GHEENS
Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone & Fax: 985-532-2288

GOLDEN MEADOW
Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

LAROSE
Mon - Thu: 10 AM - 6 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-693-3336
Fax: 985-693-3978

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Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-532-3158
Fax: 985-532-0270

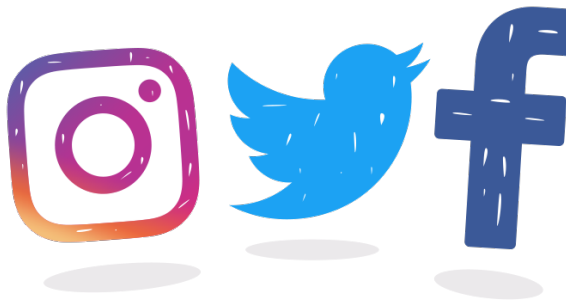
RACELAND
Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-537-6875
Fax: 985-537-2292

SOUTH LAFOURCHE
Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

S.L. STOREFRONT
Mon - Thu: 10 AM - 6 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-632-7140
Fax: 985-632-4963

THIBODAUX
Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-447-4119
Fax: 985-449-4128

HEADQUARTERS
Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Sat - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-446-1163
Fax: 985-446-3848



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