Love Your Library!
Celebrate Library Lover’s Month and discover many reasons to love your library!

Welcome to February! Love is in the air everywhere, even at your public library! February is Library Lovers’ Month, and it is a great time to share why you love your public library. Discover 101 Reasons to Love Your Public Library by visiting our Library Lovers’ page at www.swgrl.org/librarylovers.php

To get you started, here are a few reasons to love your public library:

- Use consumer research articles in print and on the Web to find best buys on everything you need or want.
- Help your blind or physically handicapped family member sign up for services through the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services.
- Prepare for the SAT and ACT with books and software.
- Get expert help with the Internet.
- Obtain forms and information for federal financial aid.
- Apply to the college of your choice using the library’s computers.

Valentine’s Tea Party
Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 4 p.m.

Are your children ready for a fun Valentine’s Day party? Join us at the Seminole County Public Library on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 4 p.m. for the second annual Valentine’s Tea Party! We will have an afternoon of Valentine’s Day themed crafts, stories, refreshments, music, and dancing! Formal dress is requested. This program is open to children ages 4—6. Space is limited to the first 30 registrants; please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 to reserve your child’s spot today!
Reading is for Everyone
Help your loved ones read with the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services

Reading is for everyone, even for those who are unable to read conventional print materials due to a temporary or permanent visual or physical handicap. The Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services, serving 22 Counties in Southwest Georgia, is here to help. Books and magazines are published in recorded form (digital and cassettes) and are loaned free to eligible readers in Baker, Brooks, Calhoun, Clay, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Lanier, Lee, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Webster, and Worth Counties. All materials are mailed free to the customer’s homes.

All types of materials are available, including best-sellers, classics, westerns, science fiction, romance, religious materials, biographies, and children’s books. Users of this service can even subscribe to over 70 popular magazines for free, including Consumer Reports, Ebony, Good Housekeeping, Jack & Jill, National Geographic, Newsweek, and Sports Illustrated. Special equipment is available through the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services including amplifiers, a Kurzweil Reading Edge Machine, Braille Machines, Optelec 20/20+, JAWS software, Perkins Braille, and much more! You are eligible for this program if you are legally blind (20/200 or less in better eye with correcting lenses), cannot see well enough to read standard print, are unable to handle print books or turn pages because of a physical handicap, or are certified by a medical doctor as having a reading disability, due to an organic dysfunction. For more information or to sign up for this program, please call the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services at 229.248.2680 or 1.800.795.2680, or visit our website at www.swgrl.org/handicap.php.

Introductory Computer Classes
February 21—23, 2012 at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Do you need to learn how to use a computer? Learn how to use a computer with assistance from the library and join us for Introductory Computer Classes this month! Introductory Computer Classes will be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on Tuesday, February 21 through Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 10 a.m. Space is limited; please call the library at 229.248.2665 to place your name on the waiting list.

Introductory Computer Classes is a three-day course; attendance is required on all three days of the course. The topics that will be covered include How to use the Mouse and Keyboard, navigating the Windows environment, Introduction to Microsoft Word 2007, and Introduction to the Internet and E-Mail. Don’t miss out on your chance to learn how to use a computer with ease!
Have you ever been confused by all of those little boxes in Microsoft Excel? What exactly do they mean, anyway? Learn how to use Microsoft Excel 2007 at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 10 a.m.** This class will cover important topics in Microsoft Excel including working with formulas, formatting spreadsheets, and creating charts and graphs.

Attendees will learn how to create a workbook, insert text and formulas, and how to delete and insert columns and rows. Participants must know how to use Microsoft Word before enrolling in this class.

Space is limited; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 to reserve your spot today!
Support Your Library!
Love your library by supporting it in unique ways!

There are many different ways to support your library. Did you know that you could help your library by bringing in your Labels for Education and your used inkjet printer cartridges?

Are you having Campbell’s soup for dinner? Tear off the soup labels and support your library! The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is participating in the national Labels for Education program!

The library is accepting labels from Campbell’s soup cans, Pepperidge Farm products, Spaghetti-Os, Prego spaghetti sauces, Franco-American gravies, Swanson canned chicken, Swanson broth, Pop Secret popcorn, selected Dannon yogurt, Emerald nuts, Glad products, and V-8 juice products and soups. Simply cut the labels from these products and drop them off at any convenient library location. These labels will support future library projects. While you are bringing your Labels for Education, bring your used inkjet printer cartridges to the library as well! How does it work? Simply bring your used printer cartridge to any library location. Both color and black inkjet cartridges are accepted. Any brand of inkjet cartridge is acceptable; however, toner cartridges are not accepted for this project. Funds raised from recycling the used ink cartridges will be used to support the 2012 Vacation Reading Program.

Book Clubs
In Miller and Seminole Counties

The First Wednesday Book Club at the Seminole County Public Library will meet on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 10 a.m. They will discuss the book The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein. If you miss this discussion, be sure to join the following meeting of the First Wednesday Book Club on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 10 a.m. where the book The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot will be discussed.

Join us on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 10 a.m. at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library for the next installment of the First Tuesday Book Club. They will discuss the book Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. The First Tuesday Book Club’s following meeting will be on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 10 a.m. Please call the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library at 229.758.3131 for the title of the book that will be discussed at this meeting.

The Dog Ears Book Club will meet on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. at the Seminole County Public Library and will discuss the book Sanibel Flats by Randy Wayne White.
It’s Tax Time!
Get help preparing your taxes this year!

Tax time is here again! Don’t stress over preparing your taxes this year—the library can help! Visit the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library every Thursday from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. and on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. to receive help on preparing your taxes, sponsored by the Decatur County Family Connections and the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library. Volunteers are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Appointments will not be accepted. IRS trained volunteers will provide free tax preparation and e-file for families and individuals. This is designed for those with incomes less than $49,000 per year. To receive the free tax preparation and e-file, please bring the following documents with you: All W-2s and 1099s (if any), Social Security Cards or Taxpayer Identification (ITIN) for all family members, a copy of your 2010 tax return (if available), a bank account and routing number (if choosing to direct deposit your refund), and a valid photo ID.

Bee My Valentine!
In Decatur and Miller Counties!

Celebrate Valentine’s Day at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System this month and join us for “Bee My Valentine”! During this program, children will listen to Valentine’s Day stories, play Valentine’s Day themed games, and make a Valentine’s Day craft! “Bee My Valentine” will be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. If you miss that day, join us at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. for Valentine’s Day themed fun. This program is designed for children ages 5—9.

Happy Valentine’s Day
Toddler Fun!
Storytimes for your little ones!

Bring your toddler **every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** for Toddler Storytime at the Seminole County Public Library! Join us as storyteller Ms. Ralna presents stories, games, and fun for all during Toddler Storytime! Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information.

Toddler Time continues at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on the third Thursday of each month, which will be held on **Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 3:30 p.m.**

Join storyteller Ms. Taryn for stories, songs, fun, and much more! Please call the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library at 229.758.3131 for more information on Toddler Time.

And, join us at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library **every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m.** for Toddler Tales! Storytellers Ms. Debbie and Ms. Taryn will introduce your child to a love of reading and the library with books, songs, crafts, and more! Please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 ext. 121 for more information. These programs are designed for children ages 18 months—4 years old. Help your little one discover the library with these fantastic programs!

**Game Day!**
Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 4 p.m. at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Hey, teens! Do you like to play video games? Are you looking for something fun to do after school? If you answered yes to both of these questions, bring your friends and join us on **Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 4 p.m.** at the Decatur County—afternoon of video games on the Nintendo Wii and the PlayStation 2! Play our video games or bring your own! If you decide to bring your own video games, they must be rated either E or E+. While you’re here, enjoy challenging your friends to board games including Checkers, Chess, Say Anything, Snakes & Ladders, and 60 Second Rule. This program is designed for ages 10—18. Please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 for more information on Game Day.

**“Help your little one discover the library with these fantastic programs!”**

Play a variety of video games on the Nintendo Wii and PlayStation 2 at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library!
Learn to Download eBooks and Audiobooks
Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 2 p.m. At the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library

Do you have an Amazon Kindle, Barnes and Noble Nook, Sony Reader, iPad, iPhone, smartphone, or other portable device? Don’t forget that you can download free eBooks and audiobooks from the library with any of the above devices! All you need is a library card and PIN number, which can be obtained by visiting any library location. If you need help learning how to download eBooks and audiobooks from the library, be sure to join us on **Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 2 p.m.** at the Miller County – James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library. Attendees will learn how to search for books, place holds, and how to transfer materials to their portable devices. Space is limited; please call the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library at 229.758.3131 to reserve your spot today!

How to Use the Mouse and Keyboard
Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 2 p.m. at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Learn how to use the mouse and keyboard at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 2 p.m.**

This class will teach the basics of using the mouse and keyboard, and will introduce the fundamental parts of the computer. Attendees will learn to use the keyboard and mouse to navigate software programs within the computer. This class is designed for those with little to no computer experience. Space is limited; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 to reserve your spot today!
### Schedule of Events

- **February 1:** *First Wednesday Book Club, 10 a.m.*
- **February 2:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 2:** *Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.*
- **February 4:** *Tax Assistance, 10 a.m.*
- **February 7:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 7:** *First Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m.*
- **February 9:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 9:** *Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.*
- **February 9:** *Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.*
- **February 11:** *Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2007, 10 a.m.*
- **February 13:** *Bee My Valentine, 4:30 p.m.*
- **February 14:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 14:** *Bee My Valentine, 3:30 p.m.*
- **February 14:** *Valentine Tea Party, 4 p.m.*
- **February 14:** *Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation Board of Trustees meeting, 5 p.m.*
- **February 16:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 16:** *Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.*
- **February 16:** *Tax Assistance, 2 p.m.*
- **February 16:** *Download eBooks and Audiobooks, 2 p.m.*
- **February 16:** *Toddler Time, 3:30 p.m.*
- **February 18:** *Dog Ears Book Club, 11:30 a.m.*
- **February 18:** *How to Use the Mouse and Keyboard, 2 p.m.*
- **February 21—23:** *Introductory Computer Classes, 10 a.m.*
- **February 21:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 21:** *Game Day, 4 p.m.*
- **February 23:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*
- **February 23:** *Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.*
- **February 23:** *Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.*
- **February 28:** *Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.*

*Color code: Purple=Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library  Red=Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library  Green=Seminole County Public Library*
Marvelous March!

March is loaded with fun and interesting classes, programs, events, and much more! Stay tuned to the March issue of The SWGRL Spotlight for more information!

Receive this newsletter directly in your e-mail inbox by e-mailing librarian@swgrl.org or by visiting any library location to subscribe.

Visit us online! www.swgrl.org

We’re on Facebook! www.facebook.com/SouthwestGaLibrary

Follow us on Twitter! www.twitter.com/SWGRL

Library Locations

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library
301 S. Monroe Street
Bainbridge, Georgia 39819
229.248.2665

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Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library
259 E. Main Street
Colquitt, Georgia 39837
229.758.3131

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Seminole County Public Library
103 West Fourth Street
Donalsonville, Georgia 39845
229.524.2665

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