**THE SWGRL SPOTLIGHT**

A monthly E-News and Information Publication of the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System

**Volume 4, Issue 2**

**September, 2011**

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**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**HEADQUARTERS**

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

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

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

www.swgrl.org

Editor: Taryn Brown

E-Mail Us!
librarian@swgrl.org

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**Library Card Sign-Up Month**

At the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System!

What is the most important card in a person’s wallet? It’s not a credit card. It’s not even an identification card or a driver’s license. The most important card in a person’s wallet is their library card! Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System by signing up to put the most valuable card in your wallet! You can get something for free—a library card.

A library card is also the most important school supply for your child. Studies show that children who read at home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

It’s easy to get a library card. An applicant for a new library card is required to provide proper identification showing current local address. Please call us or visit our website at www.swgrl.org for more information on the identification required for a new library card.

National Library Card Sign-Up Month has been observed since 1987.

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**Holiday Closing**

Closed Monday, September 5, 2011 in honor of Labor Day

The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System will be closed **Monday, September 5, 2011** in honor of Labor Day. All library locations will re-open regular business hours on **Tuesday, September 6, 2011**. If you need to return materials during this time, you may return them in one of the library’s convenient book drops at any library location. Remember, you can always visit our virtual location at www.swgrl.org, where we are open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. At our virtual location, you can download an application for a library card, view upcoming events, search the library catalog for available items, learn about free passes to Zoo Atlanta and to Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites, and much more.
Celebrate Banned Books Week!
September 24-October 1, 2011

Celebrate Banned Books Week from September 24 through October 1, 2011 at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System! Be sure to pick up some of the books that have been banned throughout history, which include I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou, The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Carrie by Stephen King. Did you know that the popular Twilight series by Stephenie Meyer was in the top 10 list of challenged titles in 2010? Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one’s opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them.

Banned Books Week has been an annual event since 1982. Please visit www.bannedbooksweek.org for more information on the national celebration.

Introductory Computer Classes
In Decatur and Miller Counties!

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 Tuesday, September 6 through Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 10 a.m.

Space is limited; please call the library at 229.248.2665 to place your name on the waiting list. Learn how to use a computer at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library Tuesday, September 27 through Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 10 a.m.

Space is limited; please call the library at 229.758.3131 to reserve your spot today.

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!
Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at your library with a Latin Fun Fiesta! Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from September 15—October 15. There will be bilingual stories, games, and crafts for all at the Latin Fun Fiesta. One of the fun games will involve learning about the Spanish language! The fiesta will begin at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. The fun continues at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. If you miss these earlier dates, join us at the Seminole County Public Library on Thursday, October 14, 2011 at 4 p.m. This program is designed for children ages 5—10. Don’t miss out on the fun and excitement of the Latin Fun Fiesta!
Toddler Fun!
Introduce your little one to the library in Decatur, Miller, and Seminole Counties!

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, September 15, 2011 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 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 child discover the library with these fantastic programs!

Book Clubs
In Miller and Seminole Counties

The First Tuesday Book Club at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library will meet Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 10 a.m. They will discuss the book Saving CeeCee Honeycutt by Beth Hoffman. If you miss this discussion, be sure to join the following meeting of the First Tuesday Book Club on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 10 a.m. where the book The Whiskey Rebels by David Riss will be discussed. For more information on the First Tuesday Book Club, please call the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library at 229.758.3131.

Join us on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 10 a.m. at the Seminole County Public Library for the next installment of the First Wednesday Book Club. They will discuss the book Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage by Hazel Rowley. The First Wednesday Book Club’s following meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 10 a.m. where the book Still Alice by Lisa Genova will be discussed. Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information on the First Wednesday Book Club.
Honor Thy Grandparents
Celebrate Grandparent’s Day at your library!

Celebrate Grandparent’s Day at your library! Honor your grandparents by listening to stories about grandparents and making a craft to give to your grandparents on Grandparent’s Day. Join us at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. to listen to stories and make crafts. Or, join us at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. to honor your grandparents. If you miss both of these exciting events, make plans to celebrate your grandparents at the Seminole County Public Library on Friday, September 9, 2011 at 4 p.m. These programs are designed for children ages 5—10. Please visit our website at www.swgrl.org for more information on this program.

Download E-Books and Audiobooks with Ease
Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 10 a.m.

Have you wanted to try the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System’s new downloadable audiobook and e-book service, but couldn’t understand how to navigate the website? Are you unsure of all of the features of the library’s new downloadable audiobooks and e-books service? Have no fear, the library is here to help. Join us at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 10 a.m. to learn how to search for and download e-books and audiobooks, and transfer them to a portable device. A basic knowledge of the Internet is required before enrolling in this course. Space is limited; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 to reserve your spot today!

“Participants will learn how to search for and download e-books and audiobooks...”
**Google Picasa**
Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 2 p.m.

Learn how to enhance your digital photos and share them with family and friends using Google Picasa at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 2 p.m.** Picasa is free to download from Google. This software allows users to edit, share, and organize digital photos. Photo editing options in Google Picasa include contrast, crop, straighten, and red eye elimination. A working knowledge of the Internet is required before enrolling in this course.

Space is limited; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 to reserve your spot today.

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**Game Day!**
Play video games at your library in September!

Is school getting you down already? Bring your friends and join us for an afternoon of video games on the Nintendo Wii and the PlayStation 2 at your library this month!

We will be having Game Day at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on **Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 4 p.m.** Game Day will be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.** Or, play video games with us at the Seminole County Public Library on **Thursday, September 22, 2011 at 4 p.m.**

This program is designed for teens ages 12—18. 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+.
Schedule of Events

- September 1: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 1: Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- September 6: First Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m.
- September 6: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 6: Honor Thy Grandparents, 3:30 p.m.
- September 6—8: Introductory Computer Classes, 10 a.m.
- September 7: First Wednesday Book Club, 10 a.m.
- September 8: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 8: Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- September 8: Honor Thy Grandparents, 3:30 p.m.
- September 9: Honor Thy Grandparents, 4 p.m.
- September 13: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 15: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 15: Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- September 15: Toddler Time, 3:30 p.m.
- September 15: Game Day, 4 p.m.
- September 19: Latin Fun Fiesta!, 4:30 p.m.
- September 20: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 20: Game Day, 3:30 p.m.
- September 22: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 22: Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- September 22: Game Day, 4 p.m.
- September 24: Download E-Books and Audiobooks, 10 a.m.
- September 24: Introduction to Google Picasa, 2 p.m.
- September 27: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 27—29: Introductory Computer Classes, 10 a.m.
- September 29: Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- September 29: Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- September 29: Latin Fun Fiesta, 3:30 p.m.

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

Don’t miss the October issue of the SWGRL Spotlight! Read about new computer classes, programs, and a special celebration for Teen Read Week 2011!

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

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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