Library Card Sign-Up Month

The library has something for everyone!

Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month in September by visiting your Southwest Georgia Regional Library System. The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System has something for everyone of all ages. Join the thousands of Decatur, Miller, and Seminole County residents who already have a library card by visiting the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System and signing up for your very own free library card. Signing up for a library card is easy; simply bring proof of your Georgia residency to receive a library card good at over 269 PINES libraries throughout the state of Georgia.

Library Card Sign-Up Month is a time when the American Library Association and libraries throughout the country remind us that the smartest card in a person’s wallet is their library card. Studies show that children learn best when they have the opportunity to pursue their own interests. That’s why a library card is the most important school supply of all. Libraries provide students with access to innovative programs, classes and educational resources to support their curiosity. Best of all it won’t cost you a thing; it’s all free with a library card.

The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System provides many exciting resources and services for all ages, including books, DVDs, downloadable audiobooks and eBooks, books on CD, computer access, programs and classes, and much more! Please visit your Southwest Georgia Regional Library System or visit our website at www.swgrl.org to see all that your library has to offer.

Library Card Sign-Up Month is held annually during the month of September. For more information on the national celebration, please visit www.atyourlibrary.org.
New Library Operating Hours!
For the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library

Beginning **Tuesday, September 4, 2012**, the operating hours for the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library will be **Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.** Visit your library and take advantage of these extended hours by signing up for a free PINES library card which is good at over 269 PINES libraries throughout the state of Georgia. Then, you can enjoy a wide selection of books, DVDs, books on CD, free computers, eBooks and downloadable audiobooks, classes and programs, and much more.

The Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library is located at 259 East Main Street, Colquitt, Georgia 39837. Please call the library at 229.758.3131 or visit our website at [www.swgrl.org](http://www.swgrl.org) for more information.

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**Holiday Closing**
Closed Monday, September 3, 2012 in honor of Labor Day

All Southwest Georgia Regional Library System locations will be closed on **Monday, September 3, 2012** in honor of Labor Day. All locations will re-open regular business hours on **Tuesday, September 4, 2012**. If you need to return materials during this time, you can use the convenient drop box located outside of any library location. You can still access library resources while the library is closed by visiting our virtual branch at [www.swgrl.org](http://www.swgrl.org), which is open 24 hours per day. At [www.swgrl.org](http://www.swgrl.org), you can search the catalog for available materials, find upcoming events, view recommended reading suggestions, download an application for a library card, download eBooks and audiobooks, and much more!
**Bookmobile Schedule**

Visit the Bookmobile at a stop near you!

The Bookmobile contains books, DVDs, and more that travel to a stop near you! Visit Mr. Max or Mr. Terry on the Bookmobile to get your hands on these materials at a stop near you:

- **Tuesday, September 4:** Spring Creek Grocery, 10—11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, September 5:** Wingate’s Lodge, 10—11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, September 12:** Parker Park in Climax, 10:30—11:30 a.m.
- **Monday, September 17:** Selman Place Apartments, 10—11 a.m.
- **Tuesday, September 18:** Brogdon’s Grocery, 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, September 26:** Spring Creek Park Resort, 9:15—10:15 a.m.
- **Wednesday, September 26:** Parkside Mini Mart, 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Are you interested in setting up a Bookmobile stop? Please call 229.248.2665 for more information on how to set up a Bookmobile stop near you.

**Your Opinion Counts!**

Tell us what you think!

Your opinion matters to the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System. Please tell us how we are doing by completing the library’s annual Customer Satisfaction Survey. The survey will run the entire month of September. Be sure to visit any library location to tell us what you think. If you cannot make it to any of our physical locations this month, please complete the survey online at www.swgrl.org. Please tell us how we are doing and what services you would like to see the library offer in the future. Remember, this is your public library and your input counts!
Meet Our Storytellers
Meet the storytellers at each library!

Who are the amazing storytellers who entertain your children at Toddler Storytime, Toddler Tales, and Toddler Time? Let’s find out a little bit more about each of them.

Toddler Storytime is hosted at the Seminole County Public Library every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by Ralna Pearson. She is the Assistant Branch Manager at the Seminole County Public Library. Ralna has been at the library for almost four years. Some of her favorite stories to tell are Mommy, Where Are You? by Leonid Gore and Gruff the Grump by Steve Smallman. When Ralna is not working, she enjoys drawing, gardening, eating out, and going to the movies. Ralna encourages parents and grandparents to bring their young children to Toddler Storytime and loves feedback from adults.

Toddler Tales is hosted at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. by Debbie Locke. She is the Children’s Library Assistant at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library and has been at the library for eight years. Some of her favorite stories include Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin and Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See? by Bill Martin. Before coming to the library, Debbie worked in various school systems with Kindergarten and Pre-K children which helped build her foundation for telling stories. She says that Tuesdays and Thursdays are her two favorite days of the week because of Toddler Tales. Debbie likes to spend her time away from the library biking, beading, watching movies, and spending time with family and friends.

Toddler Time is the library’s newest storytime program, and is held on the third Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library with Donna Weeks. Donna is the Branch Manager and has worked at the library for almost 1.5 years. Donna enjoys telling all types of stories, especially funny and colorful stories. She selects books that are recent additions to the library’s collection thanks to the generosity of the Libri Foundation Grant and Southwind Ford. Donna loves children and has been telling stories to her sons (ages 17 and 13) since they were young. She loves to read and hopes to share her passion with all children to encourage them to read and use the library. When Donna is not working, she enjoys reading, spending time with her family, cross-stitching, and working in her flowers.

Now that you know a little bit more about the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System’s storytellers, visit the library for storytime and prepare for your children to have a blast!
**School Craft**

Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

Do you have the Back to School blues? Are you dreading those pencils, books, and backpacks already? Prepare for a super fabulous time at your library after school! Join Ms. Ralna at the Seminole County Public Library on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. for a back to school celebration! We will celebrate the start of a new school year by making a fun school craft. This program is designed for children ages 4—8. Space is limited, so please arrive early! Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information.

Join us at the Seminole County Public Library on Thursday, September 13 at 4:30 p.m. for a school craft with Ms. Ralna!

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**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! Classes will be offered at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Tuesday, September 11 through Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 10 a.m.** Space is limited; please call 229.248.2665 to place your name on the waiting list. Introductory computer classes will also be held at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on **Tuesday, September 18 through Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 10 a.m.** 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 2010, and Introduction to the Internet and E-Mail.

“Do you need to learn how to use a computer?”
River of Words exhibit
Check out the display at your library!

Be sure to take the time to admire the River of Words exhibit at your library in September! The River of Words exhibit will be at the Seminole County Public Library from **August 27 through September 8, 2012**, then will be at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library from **September 10 through 22, 2012**. River of Words, a program of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, is a poetry and art contest open to grades 4 – 12 on the theme of watersheds. This exhibit showcases the state contest winners. Make sure you come and see the lovely art and poetry created by these talented young Georgians. The River of Words contest is coordinated by the Georgia Center for the Book and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers).

Many Georgia students have participated in this contest; over 150,000 entries have been received since the beginning of the program in 1987. Entries are judged on state and national levels. For more information about this contest, please visit [http://gaprojectwet.org/gawet_row2.asp](http://gaprojectwet.org/gawet_row2.asp).

Stay Connected to your sports teams
With assistance from the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services

Football season is upon us, which means it will soon be time for many southwest Georgians to keep track of scores, players, and statistics of their favorite football teams. The Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services makes it possible for blind and physically handicapped individuals to stay on top of sports news and scores throughout any sports season. Users can subscribe to magazines such as Sports Illustrated to listen to all the latest sports news. Or, use Newsline to hear the sports sections of newspapers such as USA Today to keep track of the latest football, baseball, basketball, soccer, or hockey score for their favorite team. For all of you sports nuts, the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services has a variety of sports books for your listening pleasure, including *Those Guys Have all the Fun: Inside the World of ESPN* by James A. Miller and *On the Shoulders of Giants: My Journey through the Harlem Renaissance* by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Please call the Southwest Georgia Library for Accessible Services at 229.248.2680 or 800.795.2680 to learn more about staying on top of your favorite sports news and scores.
Book Clubs
In Miller and Seminole Counties

The First Tuesday Book Club at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library will meet on **Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 10 a.m.** and will discuss the book *The Weight of Silence* by Heather Gudenkauf. If you miss this discussion, be sure to join the following meeting of the First Tuesday Book Club on **Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 10 a.m.** where the book *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See will be discussed.

Join us on **Wednesday, September 5, 2012 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 *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield. The First Wednesday Book Club will meet again on **Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 10 a.m.** at the Seminole County Public Library where the book *Tara Road* by Maeve Binchy will be discussed.

You won’t want to miss a moment of these exciting discussions!

Learn Microsoft Power Point 2010
Monday, September 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Slideshows? Presentations? PowerPoint? Have you ever wanted to know how you can create a presentation in Microsoft PowerPoint? Learn the basics of using Microsoft PowerPoint 2010 at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Monday, September 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.**

Space is limited; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 to reserve your spot. This class will cover the basics of Microsoft PowerPoint 2010, including creating a basic presentation, inserting clip art into a presentation, working with text and bullets, and printing a presentation. This class is designed for those who are comfortable with using the mouse and keyboard. A working knowledge of Microsoft Word is preferred before taking this class.
Schedule of Events

- September 4: **First Tuesday Book Club**, 10 a.m.
- September 4: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 5: **First Wednesday Book Club**, 10 a.m.
- September 6: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 6: **Toddler Storytime**, 10:30 a.m.
- September 11: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 11—13: **Introductory Computer Classes**, 10 a.m.
- September 13: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 13: **Toddler Storytime**, 10:30 a.m.
- September 13: **School Craft**, 4 p.m.
- September 13: **Toddler Storytime**, 4:30 p.m.
- September 18: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 18—20: **Introductory Computer Classes**, 10 a.m.
- September 20: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 20: **Toddler Storytime**, 10:30 a.m.
- September 20: **Toddler Time**, 3:30 p.m.
- September 20: **Toddler Storytime**, 4:30 p.m.
- September 24: **Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint 2010**, 5:30 p.m.
- September 25: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 27: **Toddler Tales**, 10 a.m.
- September 27: **Toddler Storytime**, 10:30 a.m.
- September 27: **Toddler Storytime**, 4:30 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
Only in October!

Calling all Star Wars fans! Join us on Saturday, October 6, 2012 at 10 a.m. at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for a Star Wars Reading Day! Find out more in the October issue of The SWGRL Spotlight!

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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