Welcome to Summer!
The weather is hot outside, so escape the heat by visiting your library this summer! The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System has many terrific activities planned for the whole family this summer! Don’t miss this year’s Vacation Reading Program for children, “Make a Splash—READ”. Turn to page 2 for more information. Due to the success of last summer’s first Vacation Reading Program for teens, the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is presenting another Vacation Reading Program for teens ages 12—18, “Make Waves at Your Library”. There are plenty of programs designed just for teens, beginning on page 7. The Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library will have some special programs on Saturdays in June for the entire family! Flip to pages 11 and 12 for more information on these programs. Want a chance for your child to win money for college? Find out more by turning to page 12. Make a splash this summer by taking advantage of all the free fantastic family activities at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System!

Talk About It!
First Wednesday Book Club meets June 2, 2010 at 10 a.m.!

Join us at the Seminole County Public Library for the First Wednesday Book Club on **Tuesday, June 2, 2010 at 10 a.m.** We will discuss the book *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski. This story follows speech-disabled Wisconsin youth Edgar, who bonds with three yearling canines and struggles to prove that his uncle is responsible for his father’s death.

The First Tuesday Book Club at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library will not meet during the summer; please stay tuned to the next issue of the SWGRL Spotlight for more information.
At the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System!

Vacation Reading Program 2010

Visit the library for special programs, suggested readings, and to register for this year’s Vacation Reading Program!
Surf's Up @ Your Library

Join us as we explore the world of water and water fun through stories, songs, games and other activities about rivers, lakes, oceans, and pools and the creatures that live there!

Registration begins Monday, May 17, 2010!

How does this work?

Register for this year’s Vacation Reading Program! Registration begins Monday, May 17, 2010! Visit your local library to register, or register online at www.swgrl.org. Participants will receive a reading log to keep track of the books they have read. Participants must read 20 books to complete a Reading Log. If participants read 25 pages in a chapter book, it will be counted as one book. For example, if a participant reads a book with 50 pages, that will be counted as 2 books! Books must have at least 50 pages to be counted as 2 books. Turn in a completed reading log to receive a fabulous prize from Hardee’s, Dairy Queen, Allen’s Pizza Buffet, or Captain D’s! The top reader ages 0-11 will win 2 free admission tickets to Wild Adventures Theme Park in Valdosta, Georgia! Turn to page 11 of the SWGRL Spotlight for more information on the prizes you can win this summer!

Completed Reading Logs are due on or before Saturday, July 31, 2010!
Make a Splash with these summer events!

**Clifford, the Big Red Dog—Tuesday, June 1**

Make a splash as we kick off the 2010 Vacation Reading Program with Clifford stories and a special visit from Clifford, the Big Red Dog!

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library: 10 a.m.
Seminole County Public Library: 1 p.m.
Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: 3:30 p.m.

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**Fuzzy and Snuggles—Tuesday, June 8**

Join clowns Fuzzy and Snuggles for face painting, balloon animals, magic, and more!

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library: 10 a.m.
Seminole County Public Library: 1 p.m.
Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: 3:30 p.m.
**Dive Right In! — Tuesday, June 15**

Get washed away in a rising tide of fun and magic! Join Tommy Johns, Roosevelt the Rat, and Claudia the Hippo for a wildly fun time!

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:
10 a.m.

Seminole County Public Library: 1 p.m.

Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: 3:30 p.m.

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**The Magic of Arthur Atsma — Tuesday, June 22**

Watch the amazing water tricks of magician Arthur Atsma that will have you screaming for more!

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:
10 a.m.

Seminole County Public Library: 1 p.m.

Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: 3:30 p.m.
Set sail for the library with these programs!

**Super Splashy Crafts—Thursdays**

Make a splash at your library this summer! Join library staff to make fun crafts. We will be making a beach ball and a sailboat. You won’t want to miss out on this!

**Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:**
10 a.m. (June 3 and 17)

**Seminole County Public Library:** 1 p.m. (June 3 and 17)

**Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library:** 3:30 p.m. (June 10 and 17)

**Toddler Stories—Thursdays**

Join library staff for Toddler Tales, Toddler Storytime, and Toddler Time this summer! Prepare to have a great time with creative stories, songs, fun, and more!

**Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:**
10 a.m. (June 10 and 24)

**Seminole County Public Library:** 1 p.m. (June 10 and 24)

**Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library:** 3:30 p.m. (June 3 and 24)
Make Waves at Your Library

At the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System!

Vacation Reading Program 2010
FOR TEENS AGES 12—18

ATTENTION, TEENS! VISIT THE LIBRARY THIS SUMMER FOR AWESOME PROGRAMS, PRIZES, READS, AND MORE!
Registration begins Monday, May 17, 2010!

How to participate:

Register for this year’s Teen Vacation Reading Program! Registration begins **Monday, May 17, 2010**! Visit your local library to register, or register online at www.swgrl.org. Participants will receive a reading log to keep track of the books they have read. Teens **must read 12 books** to complete a Reading Log.

Turn in a completed reading log to receive a fabulous prize from Hardee’s, Dairy Queen, Allen’s Pizza Buffet, or Captain D’s! The top reader ages 12—18 will win a **$50 gift card to Wal-Mart**! Turn to page 11 of the SWGRL Spotlight for more information on the prizes you can win this summer!

**Completed Reading Logs are due on or before Saturday, July 31, 2010!**
Wii Love Sports!

Start the summer off right by testing your athletic skill! Playing a variety of land and water sports on Wii Sports and Wii Sports Resort for Nintendo Wii!

Seminole County Public Library: Monday, June 7 @ 1 p.m.
Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: Monday, June 7 @ 3:30 p.m.
Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library: Wednesday, June 9 @ 2 p.m.

Eclipse Extravaganza!

Edward or Jacob? Bella or Rosalie? Which Twilight series star is your favorite? Cheer on your favorite Twilight heroine (or villain) at the library! Join us as we celebrate the June 30th movie release of Eclipse with trivia, fun, games, and much more!

Seminole County Public Library: Monday, June 14 @ 1 p.m.
Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library: Monday, June 14 @ 3:30 p.m.
Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library: Wednesday, June 16 @ 2 p.m.
Sing It! Shake It! Play It!

Become the next singing sensation by playing SingStar on the PlayStation 2! Rock out to Guitar Hero World Tour on Wii! Shake it by playing Dance Dance Revolution on PlayStation 2 and Just Dance on Wii!

**Seminole County Public Library:** Monday, June 21 @ 1 p.m.

**Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library:** Monday, June 21 @ 3:30 p.m.

**Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:**

Wednesday, June 23 @ 2 p.m.

Free Play!

Celebrate the end of summer programs by playing a wide variety of games on the Nintendo Wii and the PlayStation 2! Play our games or bring your own! Games must be rated E or E+.

**Seminole County Public Library:**

Monday, June 28 @ 1 p.m.

**Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library:**

Monday, June 28 @ 3:30 p.m.

**Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library:**

Wednesday, June 30 @ 2 p.m.
Wow! Fabulous Prizes!
Read a bunch of books to get your hands on some terrific prizes!

Children and teens must turn in a completed book log in order to receive a prize. Children (ages 0—11) have a completed book log when they have read 20 books. Teens (ages 12—18) must read 12 books to have a completed book log.

Participants that turn in a completed book log will receive a coupon for free food from Hardee’s, a free ice cream cone from Dairy Queen, a free Kid’s meal from Captain D’s, or a free Kid’s Buffet from Allen’s Pizza Buffet.

Want to read your books quickly? Be one of the first ten readers in Decatur, Miller, or Seminole counties to turn in a completed book log and receive a free admission ticket to the Parks at Chehaw in Albany!

Fabulous prizes will be given to the top readers at the end of the summer. The child who reads the most books throughout Decatur, Miller, and Seminole counties will win two single-day admission tickets to Wild Adventures Water and Theme Park in Valdosta, Georgia! The teen who reads the most books throughout Decatur, Miller, and Seminole counties will win a $50 gift card to Wal-Mart!

Want to read your books quickly? Be one of the first ten readers in Decatur, Miller, or Seminole counties to turn in a completed book log and receive a free admission ticket to the Parks at Chehaw in Albany!

Fabulous prizes will be given to the top readers at the end of the summer. The child who reads the most books throughout Decatur, Miller, and Seminole counties will win two single-day admission tickets to Wild Adventures Water and Theme Park in Valdosta, Georgia! The teen who reads the most books throughout Decatur, Miller, and Seminole counties will win a $50 gift card to Wal-Mart!

Wow! These are wonderful incentives to encourage your child to read. Please register your child or teen for the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System’s Vacation Reading Program!

Echoes of Ireland
Celtic Fire: Irish Music and Dance

Join us on Saturday, June 5, 2010 at 2 p.m. at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for an Irish musical concert! There’s no blarney in this program of spritely dance tunes and haunting airs performed by professional harpist Nella Rigell and master musician John Maschinot on the Celtic harp, uilleann (Irish) bagpipes, wooden flute, tin whistle and bodhran (hand-drum). The history, culture, and character of the Emerald Isle are communicated through Gaelic words and phrases, charming songs, and exciting percussive footwork performed by champion Irish step-dancer Katie Baughman.

Professional harpist Nella Rigell and master musician John Maschinot share their love of the music and lore of Ireland with people of all ages. Irish step dancer, Katie Baughman, will be performing exciting and percussive traditional dances sure to get everyone’s toes tapping.

This concert is sponsored in part by the Decatur County – Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation. The concert is also supported in part by the Grassroots Arts Program of the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly and in partnership with Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission, Inc.
Make a Splash with Mr. Tom!

Saturday, June 19 at 2 p.m. at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library!

Make a splash with storyteller and retired Youth Services Librarian Tom Bush, AKA “Mr. Tom” this summer! Mr. Tom will be appearing at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on

Saturday, June 19, 2010 at 2 p.m. Mr. Tom will be telling all types of fun water stories, including “The Alligator and the Dog”. Bring your little one and don’t miss out on all of the wonderful stories, puppetry, laughs, and much more!

Tom Bush retired from the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System in November 2007 as the Assistant Director for Youth Services and Community Relations.

This program is sponsored in part by the Decatur County – Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation. The program is also supported in part by the Grassroots Arts Program of the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly and in partnership with Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission, Inc.

Win Money for College!

“Make a Splash—Save for College” Sweepstakes!

The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is proud to be a part of the “Make a Splash – Save for College” Sweepstakes throughout Georgia’s public libraries this summer! One lucky Georgia citizen (born after 1993) will win $5,529 towards their college education just by entering the online sweepstakes this summer! Simply sign your child up for the Vacation Reading Program at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System in order to be eligible to enter the sweepstakes. Once you register for your child, you will receive a bookmark with information on how to enter the sweepstakes.

There are bonuses for the library, as well. The sweepstakes winner’s home library will receive $1,000 for children’s and teen services! In addition, the Georgia public library system with the greatest percentage of registered users entered into the sweepstakes will receive $1,529 for children’s and teen services!

Visit your library beginning Monday, May 17, 2010 to sign your child up for the 2010 Vacation Reading Program and to enter your child for a chance to win $5,529 for their college education!
Thank you to the Vacation Reading Program 2010 Sponsors:

THREE NOTCH

EMC

Decatur County-Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation

Peanuts

Hardees

Georgia Rural Library Initiative Grant

CJM Construction

Walmart

the Parks at Chehaw

Albany, Georgia

Allen’s Pizza Buffet

Bainbridge Mall Cinemas

Wild Adventures Water & Theme Park

Valdosta, GA

DQ
Southwest Georgia Regional Library System

Serving Decatur, Miller, and Seminole Counties

Visit us online!
www.swgrl.org

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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