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Southwest Georgia Regional Library System

The SWGRL Spotlight

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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

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E-Mail us!

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Food for Fines: May 4—16

The Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is proud to announce the return of Food for Fines beginning **Monday, May 4 through Saturday, May 16, 2009**. The library will accept nonperishable food donations to pay for overdue fines. Each donation equals \$1.00 worth of fines. All items

received will be donated to a local food bank. Items that are damaged, contained in glass, or have an expired date on them cannot be accepted due to safety reasons. This does not apply to lost or damaged items. This offer will not be extended, so make sure you take advantage of it while it lasts!



Assistant Branch Manager Rhonda Murphy accepts nonperishable food donations at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library. Participate in this special program May 4—16!

Library Re-Opening May 4, 2009 In Miller and Seminole Counties

The Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library will re-open on **Monday, May 4 at 11:30 a.m.** The library has been closed from Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 1 due to painting work. Visit us on May 4 to see the new painting work that has been completed at the library!

The Seminole County Public Library will also re-open on **Monday, May 4 at 9:30 a.m.** The library has been closed since Monday, April 6 for re-modeling work, including painting work and the installation of new carpet. Join us to check out your newly re-modeled Seminole County Public Library!



Stop by and visit the newly remodeled Seminole County Public Library starting May 4, 2009!

Children's Book Week 2009: May 11—17

"During this week, we will go bananas for Curious George!"

Celebrate Children's Book Week 2009 at your library! Children's Book Week 2009 is celebrated from May 11—17. During this week, we will go bananas for Curious George! Join us at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on **Wednesday, May 13**

at 4 p.m. for games, stories, and more Curious George fun! On **Thursday, May 14 at 4 p.m.**, join us at the Seminole County Public Library as we go bananas

for Curious George! If you missed those sessions, be sure to join us on **Saturday, May 16 at 2 p.m.** at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for all types of Curious George fun! This program is designed for children ages 3—8.

Children's Book Week celebrates its 90th annual observance from May 11-17, 2009. A celebration of the written word, Children's Book Week

introduces young people to new authors and ideas in schools, libraries, homes, and bookstores. Through Children's Book Week, Every Child a Reader (the CBC Foundation) encourages young people and their caregivers to discover the complexity of the world beyond their own experience through books. Please visit www.bookweekonline.com for more information about Children's Book Week.

Have You Met?

Carol Akridge

Have you met Carol Akridge at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library? Carol is one of the Branch Co-Managers at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library. She has been with the library for 5 years; she has been a Branch Co-Manager at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for 4 of those years. Her favorite part about working at the library is being able to

help people find the materials they are looking for. She especially enjoys showing library patrons how to manage their library account online at <http://gapines.org>.

Before coming to the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library, Carol spent 18 years at the Jacksonville Public Library in Florida working as a Children's Library Assistant and then as a Circulation Supervisor.

When she is not working, Carol enjoys spending time with her new husband, Hal, gardening, cooking, and listening to music, especially gospel and country/western music.

Carol has two grown children (1 boy and 1 girl) and 1 granddaughter, age 7.

Stop by the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library and meet Carol Akridge today!



Meet Carol Akridge at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library today!

Vacation Reading Program 2009:

Be Creative @ Your Library! Express Yourself @ Your Library!

Summer is approaching quickly, and that means it is time once again for the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System’s Vacation Reading Program! This year’s themes are “Be Creative @ Your Library” (children) and “Express Yourself @ Your Library” (teens).

Registration begins **Monday, May 18** at all library locations.

When participants register for the Vacation Reading Program, they will receive a book log. Participants must turn in a completed book log

to receive a prize from either FunStation in Tallahassee, Florida or from Hardee’s! They must read 20 books in order to have a completed book log. All completed book logs will be entered in to a drawing for free movie tickets from Bainbridge Mall Cinemas or free admission tickets to the Parks at Chehaw in Albany! Be sure to read many books this summer, because the top readers can win even more fabulous prizes! The second overall top reader throughout Decatur, Miller, and Seminole counties will

win a \$50 gift card to Wal-Mart! The overall top reader will win 2 single-day admission tickets to Wild Adventures Theme Park in Valdosta!

Your library will offer fun, fabulous programs during June for children and teens! Stay tuned to the SWGRL Spotlight’s special summer newsletter for more information!

You won’t want to miss out on the best Vacation Reading Program yet!



Be Creative @ Your Library this summer starting Monday, May 18!

Identity Theft Program:

Monday, May 18, 2009 at 4 p.m.

Join the experts from Georgia Watch on **Monday, May 18 at 4 p.m.** at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for an informative program on how to protect yourself from identity theft. Georgia Watch is Georgia’s leading non-partisan advocacy group working to

improve consumer protection for Georgia families. Identity theft occurs when a thief uses someone else’s name and SSN to fill out a credit application, often for a credit card. Identity theft is a serious problem in our country and in our state. In 2008, there

were 15 data breaches in the state of Georgia, exposing the personal identification of 300,000 Georgians.

In this program, learn about what identity theft is and how it works. Also learn how to protect your personal information from identity thieves.

“In this program, learn about what identity theft is and how it works.”

The Bookmobile: Don't miss these neighborhood stops!



Visit Mr. Max Griffin or Mr. Terry Karnes on your next visit to the Bookmobile!

Have you visited the Bookmobile lately? No? Well here's your chance to visit the Bookmobile to see the great assortment of materials on there! Visit Mr. Max Griffin or Mr. Terry Karnes on your next visit to the Bookmobile as they can assist you with all your Bookmobile needs!

Monday, May 4

- Attapulcus Community Center, 10–11 a.m.

Tuesday, May 5

- Spring Creek Grocery, 10—11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 6

- Wingate's Lodge, 10—11:30 a.m.
- Recovery Community Center, 12—1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12

- Iron City Convenience Store, 10—11 a.m.
- Old Steadham Store, 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

- Climax Pavilion Park, 10:30—11:30 a.m.

Monday, May 18

- Selman Place Apartments, 10—11 a.m.

Tuesday, May 19

- Brogdon's Grocery Store, 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27

- Parkside Mini Mart, 10—11 a.m.

Toddler Storytime: At the Seminole County Public Library!

"Prepare to have a great time with storyteller Ms. Ralna as she tells super fun stories for all."

Join us at the Seminole County Public Library in Donalsonville **every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.** for Toddler Storytime! Prepare to have a great time with storyteller Ms. Ralna as she tells

super fun stories for all.

Toddler Storytime is a great way for toddlers to build socialization skills by having them interact with others their age. Toddler Storytime is also a

great way to introduce your little ones to books at an early age, which helps them with early literacy skills.

Join us at the Seminole County Public Library for Toddler Storytime!

Bookin' It

In Miller and Seminole counties!

Do you love to read and discuss books with others? Do you want to find out what somebody else thought of that character in the book you just read? Well look to the three book clubs in Miller and Seminole counties! Join us for the First Tuesday Book Club on **Tuesday, May 5 at 10 a.m.** at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library as

they discuss the book The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer.

The First Wednesday Book Club at the Seminole County Public Library will not meet in May due to library renovations. Please call the library at 229.524.2665 for more information on the First Wednesday Book Club.

Are Saturdays a better time for you to join us

for a book discussion? Join us at the Seminole County Public Library on **Saturday, May 23 at 1 p.m.** for the Literati Book Club. The Literati Book Club is the library's newest book club; choices range from fiction to non-fiction and everything in between. Please call the library for more information on the title that will be discussed at this meeting.

"Do you love to read and discuss books with others?"

Endowments

Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation

The Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation is an independent non-profit organization established in 1991 for the purpose of developing the potential of the public library through financial support from the private sector (independent of tax dollars) to increase awareness and use of the

library, and thereby endow future generations with a broad range of intellectual resources. The library Foundation provides several different endowments for the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library. For example, one of the endowments is the Lloyd Poitevint

endowment, which provides books and materials on business, economics, and World War II.

For more information on the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation, please call the library at 229.248.2665.

"For example, one of the endowments is the Lloyd Poitevint endowment."

Genealogy Session: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 10 a.m.

Starting to research your family tree? Need help learning what records to use in your research? Join us on **Tuesday, May 19 at 10 a.m.** at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg

Library for an informative genealogy session. Library staff members Sharon Karnes and Catherine Vanstone show off all of the genealogical resources that your library has to offer. Library staff will also

be on hand to answer any genealogical research questions you may have. Please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 for more information on this workshop.

“Need help learning what records to use in your research?”

Did You Know?

Some Lesser-Known Facts About Your Library

In today’s economy, people are flocking to the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System to use a computer to search and apply for jobs, create and update their resumes, and save money by checking out books, books on CD,

and DVDs instead of purchasing them.

Did you know that over **180,000** people visited the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System last year? That’s a lot of people. Did you also know that library staff answered over **81,000**

reference questions last year? Furthermore, did you know that over **120,000** Internet sessions occurred on the library’s public computers last year? Don’t you want to be one more? Visit us today and see what all the hype is about!

“Don’t you want to be one more? Visit us today and see what all the hype is about!”

Upcoming Events

Check out what's going on at your library this month!

Monday, May 4

- Seminole County Public Library Re-Opens, 9:30 a.m.
- Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library Re-Opens, 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 5

- First Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m., Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library

Wednesday, May 6

- Emotional Customer Service: Making the Connection with Patrons, 9:30 a.m.—4 p.m., Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Thursday, May 7

- Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Seminole County Public Library

Tuesday, May 12

- Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation Board Meeting, 5 p.m., Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Wednesday, May 13

- Go Bananas for Curious Georget, 4 p.m., Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library

Tuesday, May 14

- Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m., Seminole County Public Library
- Go Bananas for Curious Georget, 4 p.m., Seminole County Public Library

Saturday, May 16

- Go Bananas for Curious Georget, 2 p.m., Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Monday, May 18

- Preventing Identity Theft, 4 p.m., Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Tuesday, May 19

- Genealogy Session, 10 a.m., Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

Tuesday, May 21

- Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Seminole County Public Library

Thursday, May 28

- Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Seminole County Public Library

