

**Southwest
Georgia Regional
Library System
Presents:**

THE SWGRL SPOTLIGHT

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Communities Thrive at Your Library

Celebrate National Library Month this April!

It's April, and time for National Library Week. However, your Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is celebrating National Library Week all month long! National Library "Month" is a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians, and library workers nationwide. Libraries are at the heart of every community and the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System helps this community

thrive. At the library, people come together for community meetings, programs, research, to get help finding a job, receive homework help, and so much more. Visit your library to take part in fun programs for all ages, computer classes, new books and DVDs, and much more!

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the

American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

For more information on National Library "Month", visit our website at www.swgrl.org.



Communities thrive at your library this month!

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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Fandagumbo! Family Singalong Concert

Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3!

Come join award winning children's musician Julie Austin for a lively singalong concert! Julie plays guitar, ukulele, autoharp, and jawharp; she invites her audience to sing along, move along, learn sign language and gestures, as well as be a part of her interactive musical storytelling. Julie will be at the Seminole County Public Library on **Friday, April 2, 2010 at 10 a.m.** and at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library

on **Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 10 a.m.**

Julie has received Parent's Choice Awards for her CDs and travels all over the world doing concerts and presentations at early childhood and library conferences. This concert is guaranteed to have your hands clapping, toes tapping and fingers snapping!

The Seminole County Public Library concert is sponsored by the

Georgia Rural Library Initiative Grant. The Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library concert is supported in part by the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation and 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.

Open Mic Time

Celebrate National Poetry Month at your library!

Do you like writing poetry? Do you want to share your best work with others? Grab a few of your best poems and join us this month for open mic afternoon! Open mic afternoon will be at the Seminole County Public Library on



Share your original poems or read your favorite poems at Open Mic Night this month!

Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 4 p.m. Can't make it at that time? Then read your poetry at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on **Thursday, April 15, 2010 at 4 p.m.** Or, share your poetry at

the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Monday, April 19, 2010 at 5 p.m.**

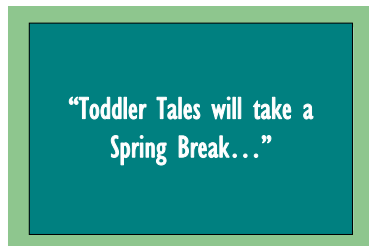
Share your original poems or read your favorite poems. This program is open to teens ages 11—18.

So get your best poems out or find your favorite poems to share!

Storytime Schedules

Important information regarding storytime schedules this month!

Be sure to join us at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library for Toddler Tales **every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m.!** Prepare to have loads of fun with storytellers Ms. Debbie and Ms. Taryn as they tell stories, sing songs, make crafts, and much more! Toddler Tales will take a spring break on



Tuesday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 8, 2010. Toddler Tales will resume on **Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 10 a.m.** Please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 for more

information on Toddler Tales.

If you still want to take your

child to storytime during that week or any other time, visit the Seminole County Public Library **every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.** for Toddler Storytime! Your child will have a blast with stories, songs, and much more with storyteller Ms. Ralna! Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information on Toddler Storytime.

Don't Miss the Bookmobile!

Coming to a stop near you!

Don't miss the Bookmobile when it comes to a stop near you! Visit Mr. Max or Mr. Terry on the Bookmobile to get your hands on some of the latest books, DVDs, and more!

- **Monday, April 5:** Attapulgus Community Center, 10—11 a.m.
- **Tuesday, April 6:** Spring Creek Grocery, 10—11 a.m.
- **Wednesday, April 7:** Wingate's Lodge, 10—11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, April 7:** Recovery Community Center, 12—1:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 13:** Iron City Convenience Store, 10—11 a.m.
- **Wednesday, April 14:** Climax Pavilion Park, 10:30—11:30 a.m.
- **Monday, April 19:** Selman Place Apartments, 10—11 a.m.
- **Tuesday, April 20:** Brogdon's Grocery, 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 28:** Parkside Mini Mart, 10—11 a.m.



Be sure to visit Mr. Max and Mr. Terry on the Bookmobile this month!

Come visit the Bookmobile and see what you've been missing!

Learn to Use a Computer!

In Decatur and Seminole Counties this month!

Does it seem like everyone you know is using a computer and you're not? Do you want to use one of the library's public computers to access the Internet, but not sure how to use one? Enroll in beginning computer classes at the Seminole County Public Library this month and learn how to use a computer with ease. Classes will be held on **Tuesday, April 6, Wednesday, April 7 and Thursday, April 8, 2010**. This course is also

going to be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Tuesday, April 13, Wednesday, April 14 and Thursday, April 15, 2010**.

Beginning Computer Classes is a three-day course designed for those who have little or no computer experience. Attendance is required at all three days of the

course. Topics covered during this course include how to use the mouse and keyboard, how to use Microsoft Word 2007, and how to use the Internet and E-Mail.

Space is limited for both courses; please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 or the

Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 to reserve your spot!

"Does it seem like everyone you know is using a computer?"

Have You Met?

Susan Pettus at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library

Have you met library staff member Susan Pettus? Susan is a Substitute Library Assistant who works at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library. She has been employed by the library for over 1 year. She enjoys getting to see the new books that come in and meeting the patrons of the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library. Susan says that, “I learn something new every day that I work at the library.” Before coming to work at

the library, Susan spent 10 years working as a flight attendant. She then went into dentistry for 28 years.

She has lived in a variety of places throughout the United States, including Denver, Colorado, California, central Florida, and Huntsville, Alabama. Susan is originally from the Atlanta area.



Stop by the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library and meet Susan Pettus!

When she is not working at the library, Susan enjoys reading, working on her

computer, gardening, and cooking. She loves to cook, especially Italian food.

Make sure you meet Susan Pettus the next time you

visit the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library!

Need Help with your Taxes?

Free tax preparation assistance available at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library!

The income tax deadline of April 15 is rapidly approaching. Still need help filing your taxes? Visit the Decatur

County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library to have your taxes prepared for free! Visit the library **every Thursday from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. (through April 15) and on Saturday, April 3, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.** This program is sponsored by the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library and the Decatur County Family Connections

Collaborative. 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 families with incomes less than \$40,000 per year and for individuals with incomes less than \$15,000 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 Numbers (ITIN) for all family members, a copy of your 2008 tax return (if available), a bank account and routing number (if choosing to direct deposit your refund, and a valid photo identification.



Don't stress out about taxes! Visit the library to have your taxes prepared by IRS-trained volunteers!

Digital Players!

Now available at the Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped!

The Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped now has digital players available! These new digital players have several advantages over the older cassette players. They are smaller in size, easier to use, and have a longer battery life. Only a small number of digital players are currently available. Each player uses a specialized USB flash cartridge to play the recorded books. The Library of Congress, who oversees

the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped program, designated veterans as the first group of people to receive the new digital players.

Are you interested in receiving a digital player? Please call the Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at 229.248.2680 or at

1.800.795.2680 to get on the list to receive a digital player.

Do you or someone you know qualify for the Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped service? Please call

229.248.2680 or 1.800.795.2680 for more information on qualifying and signing up for this service.



Get your hands on a new digital player available at the Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped!

Let's Talk About It

Book Clubs at Your Library!

If you want to participate in some insightful discussion with others, then the library's book clubs are the place to be. Join us on **Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 10 a.m.** at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library for the First Tuesday Book Club! We will be discussing Sunday Wives by Cassandra King. The next meeting of the First Tuesday Book Club will be held

on **Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 10 a.m.** as we discuss the book Have a Little Faith by Mitch Albom. Don't forget to join us on **Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 10 a.m.** at the Seminole County Public Library for the First

Wednesday Book Club. This month, we will discuss the book Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay. If you

miss this discussion, don't forget to join in on the next meeting of the First Wednesday Book Club on **Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 10 a.m.** where the discussion will center on the book Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford.

Don't miss a moment of these interesting discussions!

"... the library's book clubs are the place to be."

Schedule of Events

- Thursday, April 1—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
 Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
 Tax Assistance, 12—3 p.m.
- Friday, April 2— Musician Julie Austin, 10 a.m.
- Saturday, April 3—Musician Julie Austin, 10 a.m.
 Tax Assistance, 11:30 a.m.—2 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 6—First Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 6—Thursday, April 8—Beginning Computer Classes, 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 7—First Wednesday Book Club, 10 a.m.
- Thursday, April 8—Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
 Tax Assistance, 12—3 p.m.
 Open Mic Afternoon, 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 13—Thursday, April 15—Beginning Computer Classes, 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 13—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- Thursday, April 15—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
 Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
 Open Mic Afternoon, 4 p.m.
- Monday, April 19—Open Mic Afternoon, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 20—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 21— Seminole County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 10 a.m.
 Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library Board of Trustees meeting, 1 p.m.
 Southwest Georgia Regional Library System Board of Trustees meeting, 3 p.m.
 Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Board of Trustees meeting, 5 p.m.
- Thursday, April 22—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
 Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 27—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
- Thursday, April 29—Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.
 Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

