

**Southwest  
Georgia Regional  
Library System  
Presents:**

# THE SWGRL SPOTLIGHT

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**February, 2011**

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

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## Library Lovers' Month

So many reasons to love your library!

Welcome to February! Love is in the air everywhere, even at your public library! February is Library Lovers' Month, and it is a great time to share why you love your public library. Discover 101 Reasons to Love Your Public Library by visiting our Library Lovers' page at [www.swgrl.org/librarylovers.php](http://www.swgrl.org/librarylovers.php)

Tell us why you love your public library! E-mail us at

[librarian@swgrl.org](mailto:librarian@swgrl.org), post why you love your library on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SouthwestGaLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/SouthwestGaLibrary), or drop by any library location and tell us why you love your library! Selected responses will appear in the next issue of the SWGRL Spotlight! In the meantime, here are a few reasons to love your public library:

- Learn how to write

a resume.

- Get IRS or Georgia tax forms in the library or online.
- Enjoy storytimes with your children.
- Borrow DVDs and decide if you like them before you buy copies of your own.



*Celebrate Library Lovers' Month at your library this February!*

## 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](http://www.swgrl.org)

Editor: Taryn Brown

### E-Mail Us!

[librarian@swgrl.org](mailto:librarian@swgrl.org)

## Bee My Valentine!

At your library this month!

Celebrate Valentine's Day at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System this month and join us for "Bee My Valentine"! During this program, children will listen to Valentine's Day stories including Mouse's First Valentine, play Valentine's Day themed games, and make a Valentine's

Day craft!

"Bee My Valentine" will be held at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library on **Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.** If you miss that day, join us at the Seminole County Public Library on **Wednesday, February 9, 2011**

**at 4 p.m.** for Valentine's Day-themed fun. Or, join us at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Friday, February 11, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.** for "Bee My Valentine".

This program is designed for children ages 6—11.

## Tax Assistance

Get your taxes done for free at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library!

Tax time is here again! Don't stress over preparing your taxes this year—the library can help! Visit the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library **every Thursday from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. and on Saturday, February 5, 2011 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.** to receive help on preparing your taxes, sponsored by the Decatur County Family Connections and the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library. 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 those with incomes less than \$49,000 per year.

To receive the free tax preparation and e-file, please bring the following

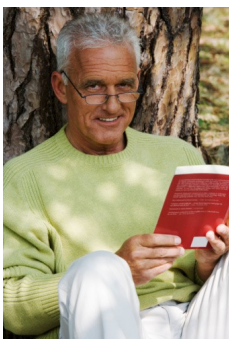
documents with you: All W-2s and 1099s (if any), Social Security Cards or Taxpayer Identification (ITIN) for all family members, a copy of your 2009 tax return (if available), a bank account and routing number (if choosing to direct deposit your refund), and a valid photo identification.

“Don't stress over preparing your taxes this year—the library can help!”

## Book Clubs

Discuss intriguing characters with fellow readers!

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, February 1, 2011 at 10 a.m.** at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library for the First Tuesday Book Club! We will be discussing Stolen in the Night by Patricia



Discuss books with others at the First Tuesday and First Wednesday Book Clubs!

MacDonald. The next meeting of the First Tuesday Book Club will be held on **Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 10 a.m.** Please call the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library at 229.758.3131 for the title of the book that will be discussed at the next meeting.

Also, don't forget to join us on **Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 10 a.m.** at the Seminole County Public Library for

the First Wednesday Book Club. This month, we will discuss the book Nickel and Dimed on (Not) Getting by in America by Barbara Ehrenreich. If you miss this discussion, don't forget to join in on the next meeting of the First Wednesday Book Club on **Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 10 a.m.** They will be discussing the book Rich Boy by Sharon Pomerantz. Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information on the First Wednesday Book Club.

## Have You Met

### Catherine Vanstone, Assistant Director for Technology, Training, and Development

Have you met Catherine Vanstone at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System? Catherine is the Assistant Director for Technology, Training, and Development. She has been with the library for over 5 years and has a Master's degree in Library Science from Indiana University at Bloomington. She also has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Agnes Scott College, with a double major in History and Art History. While in college, Catherine studied abroad in Reading, England for one year.



Stop by the library and meet Catherine Vanstone!

Prior to working for the library, Catherine worked as an Assistant Librarian for the State Library of Florida and interned for one semester at the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System while in graduate school.

As the Assistant Director, Catherine says, "Each day is different"; her duties include serving as liaison to the libraries in Miller and Seminole counties, the Bookmobile, and the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation. She teaches computer classes and assists with library statistics and reports. In addition, she is the

head of public services for the regional library system and assists the Director with special projects.

Catherine is originally from Donalsonville, but has lived in Bainbridge for 5 years. She enjoys being able to give back to the community that she grew up in.

Catherine has been married for 5 years. She likes to read (when she has time), helping with Special Olympics, and enjoys spending time with her husband, Daaron, and her son, Henry, who will be turning 3 this month. She especially enjoys playing cars with Henry and Daaron.

Stop by the library and meet Catherine Vanstone!

## Introducing BARD

### Braille and Audio Reading Download

What is BARD? BARD stands for Braille & Audio Reading Download. Digital books from the National Library Service (NLS) are now available for download using BARD. This service is available from the NLS BARD main page, located at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>. More than 20,000 digital books and 40 magazines are available to download, and new titles are constantly being added.

You can download the digital books to a USB flash drive or

on to a blank talking book cartridge. USB flash drives have a variety of different names, including thumb drive, memory stick, and jump drive. All of these are referring to the same product. The books downloaded from BARD are about 100-120 Megabytes (MB) each, so 4-6 books will fit on a 1 Gigabyte (GB) flash drive. You can purchase a

blank talking book cartridge and a USB cable to connect it to your computer during the download process from

The American Printing House for the Blind at <http://shop.aph.org> or call 800.223.1839. Cartridges are also available from Adaptive Technology Online at [www.perkinsproducts.org](http://www.perkinsproducts.org), or call 978.462.3817.

First-time visitors will need to apply for BARD with the link provided on the BARD website.

For more information on BARD, please contact the Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at 229.248.2680 or 1.800.795.2680.

"More than 20,000 digital books and 40 magazines are available to download..."

# Traveling Books

Catch the Bookmobile as it travels to 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, February 1:** Spring Creek Grocery, 10—11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 2:** Wingate’s Lodge, 10—11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 2:** Recovery Community Center, 12—1:30 p.m.

- **Monday, February 7:** Attapulgus Community Center, 10—11 a.m.
- **Tuesday, February 8:** Iron City Convenience Store, 10—11 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 9:** Parker Park in Climax, 10:30—11:30 a.m.
- **Tuesday, February 15:** Brogdon’s Grocery, 11:30 a.m.
- **Monday, February 21:**

Selman Place Apartments, 10—11 a.m.

- **Wednesday, February 23:** Spring Creek Park Resort, 9:15—10:15 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 23:** Parkside Mini Mart, 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.



Catch the Bookmobile at a stop near you!

Visit the Bookmobile as it travels to a stop near you!

## Investigate Your Ancestry

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

Do you want to know more about your family tree? Are you starting to research your ancestors? Do you need help learning what records to use in your research? Join us on

**Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 4 p.m.** at the Miller County—James W.

Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library for an informative genealogy program.

Library staff members will show off all of the

genealogical resources that your library has to offer, and will provide

an introduction to Ancestry Library Edition, a valuable genealogical research resource.

Learn all you need so that you can start researching your family tree!

“Do you want to know more about your family tree?”

## Just for Toddlers!

### Storytime Fun at Your Library

Are you looking for a way for your toddler to interact with other children? Well bring your child to the library to have loads of fun, designed just for toddlers! Toddler Tales will be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library **every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m.** Storytellers Ms. Debbie and Ms. Taryn tell stories, sing songs, play games, make crafts, and more with your children. Please call the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library at 229.248.2665 for more information on Toddler Tales.

Don't forget about Toddler Time at the Miller County—James W. Merritt, Jr. Memorial Library. The next session will be held on **Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.** This is held on the third Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m. Prepare to have loads of fun with storyteller Ms. Taryn with stories, songs, crafts, and 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 Seminole County Public Library **every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** for Toddler Storytime with storyteller Ms. Ralna. Enjoy stories, games, crafts, and more fun during Toddler Storytime! Please call the Seminole County Public Library at 229.524.2665 for more information.



Join us for storytime at your library!

## Learn to Use a Computer

In Decatur and Seminole 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 February! Classes will be offered at the Seminole County Public Library on **Tuesday, February 1—Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 10 a.m.** Space is limited; please call 229.524.2665 to reserve your spot.

Introductory computer classes will also be held at the Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library on **Tuesday, February 10—Thursday, February 12, 2011 at 10 a.m.** Please call the library at 229.248.2665 to place your name on the waiting list.

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.

“Learn how to use a computer with assistance from the library.”



# Schedule of Events

- February 1: **First Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m.**
- February 1: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 1—3: **Introductory Computer Classes, 10 a.m.**
- February 2: **First Wednesday Book Club, 10 a.m.**
- February 3: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 3: **Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.**
- February 3: **Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.**
- February 5: **Tax Assistance, 10 a.m.**
- February 8: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 8—10: **Introductory Computer Classes, 10 a.m.**
- February 8: **Bee My Valentine, 3:30 p.m.**
- February 8: **Decatur County—Gilbert H. Gragg Library Foundation Board Meeting, 5 p.m.**
- February 9: **Bee My Valentine, 4 p.m.**
- February 10: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 10: **Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.**
- February 10: **Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.**
- February 11: **Bee My Valentine, 4 p.m.**
- February 15: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 17: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 17: **Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.**
- February 17: **Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.**
- February 17: **Toddler Time, 3:30 p.m.**
- February 17: **Investigate Your Ancestry, 4 p.m.**
- February 22: **Toddler Tales, 10 a.m.**
- February 24: **Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.**
- February 24: **Tax Assistance, 12 p.m.**

