
THE BLADE

CONYERS-ROCKDALE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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Spring 2017

Meet Mary Jean Harrison: Assistant Director for Public Services

We are pleased to welcome Mary Jean Harrison as the new Assistant Director for Public Services at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library.

Mary Jean, originally from Kalamazoo, Michigan, began to foster an interest in libraries at a very early age, volunteering along with her six siblings as a library page when she was just 14 years old.



After graduating in 2002 with a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Alabama, Mary Jean continued her passion for public libraries by working in many different roles.

Prior to accepting her position at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, she worked as a Branch Manager in Clio, Michigan, as a Cataloger at Berry College, as a Branch Manager for Clayton County Public Library, and as a Branch Manager for Gwinnett County Public Library.

She states that one of her favorite things about working for the Conyers-Rockdale Library System is moments when patrons share their happiness and enthusiasm for the positive impact libraries have made in their lives.

When not at work, Mary Jean enjoys running, crafting, and baking. She is a Harry Potter fan and appreciates the athletic teen fiction of Chris Crutcher. Her favorite book is *The Little Princess* by Frances Hodgson Burnett and her favorite fictional characters all come from the Shonen Jump anime/manga series. They are Naruto, Incho, and Luffy. Look them up, readers!



Mary Jean hopes that her new role will enable her to support our Director and all the staff in our joint endeavor to serve the community to the utmost and to successfully adapt to the rapidly evolving nature of modern library service.

Stop by the library and say hello to Mary Jean!

"Thrilling Thursdays!"

June 1st: Magician Ken Scott presents: "Build it and Read it" Magic Show

Ken & his puppet friend, "Croco," will present a hilarious kick-off performance featuring unbelievable magic, comedy, storytelling, and lots of audience participation!

June 8th: Ventriloquist Gene Cordova presents: "Some Assembly Required"

Gene and his cast of characters will delight the audience with his unique talents that include ventriloquism, comedy illusion, and storytelling!

June 15th: Puppeteer Lee Bryan presents:
"Build a Better Word: Two Stories at a Time."
Even a brick house is no match for the Big Bad Wolf who is working double time in this tangle of a tale!

June 22nd: My Reptile Guys presents: "Fun Reptile Adventures!"

Experience the thrill of a wild safari at your library!
Build memories by getting up close and personal with exotic and beautiful reptiles.

July 6th: Storyteller Josie Bailey presents: "Building a Better World with Laughter."

Enjoy an engaging and interactive program that will transport listeners into a world of imagination.
Audience members will help Ms. Bailey bring well known tales to life!

July 13th: Lew-E the Clown presents: "Building a Better World: One Smile at a Time!"

This high energy show features amazing juggling, side-splitting comedy and silly tricks by Lew-E!

**BUILD A BETTER
WORLD**



Meet Sara Erickson: Adult Services Specialist



Our new head of Adult Services, Sara Erickson, spent a great deal of time in libraries as a child. Her first job was at the Covington Library where she worked as a page, and it was at this location where she decided that she wanted to work in libraries for the rest of her life. After earning a bachelor's degree in English Literature from Georgia College and State University, Sara secured a position at the Newton County Library for eight years before joining the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library in 2016.

With small children at home and a full-time job on her plate, Sara expresses amazement that busy people can find time for hobbies. Although she's happy at this stage in life, she does miss free time to read, make jewelry, and play SIMS.

She states that she is very happy in her current position and loves the people that she works with, saying that "we have a great team at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library; everybody is friendly, approachable, and always willing to pitch in and help when needed."

She also believes that it is the time for growth and change within libraries and would like to see that reflected within her department. She wants adults to experience the excitement they might have felt as kids visiting the library, and to come in looking forward to new programs or technology that we can offer.

Harking back to the days when Sara found time to read, she says her favorite books are *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, and Peter Beagle's *The Last Unicorn*. She loves them because they're beautiful stories on the surface, but contain a lot of depth and meaning and stay relevant no matter how old the reader gets.

When asked who her favorite fictional character is, she answers that it is Aaron Burr from the musical *Hamilton*. She, of course, realizes that Aaron Burr was an actual person, but enjoys the singing and rapping *Hamilton* version more than the real life historical character.

Stop by Adult Services and say hello to Sara!

“Build it and Read it Magic Show” Thursday, June 1st!

We are pleased to announce that magician **Ken Scott** and his puppet friend, “Croco,” will kick off our **2017 Summer Reading Program** with a hilarious performance featuring unbelievable magic, comedy, storytelling and lots of audience participation. !

All “**Thrilling Thursday**” programs will be held in the lower level meeting room @ the library from 10:30am - 11:15am.

All ages are welcome!

No registration is required.

Adult Summer Reading Party!

Join us for food & fun to celebrate the end of the Adult Summer Reading Program! Win prizes & enjoy delicious snacks!

Ages: 18 and older

**Saturday, July 29th
2:00pm - 3:00pm**



The Friends of the Nancy Guinn Library hold used book sales on the second Saturday of each month from 10:30am - 2:00pm
Friends of The Nancy Guinn Library

A wide variety of books for children and adults are in good condition and priced to sell. Proceeds of the sales support special programs and projects of the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library. For more information, or to become a member of the Friends of the Nancy Guinn Library, visit: www.conyersrockdalelibrary.org

Event Spotlights

At the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library



Scissors, Stories, and STEAM

A new community event, hosted by **MADD Skillz Barbershop** and the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, called Scissors, Stories, and STEAM recently held its inaugural gathering to great delight of the community!



Participants enjoyed a fun filled day of crafts, stories, STEAM activities, haircuts, and more. Some particularly successful and entertaining activities allowed the youths to look at their own hair underneath microscopes and to make masks with hair which could be cut and

styled. The next Scissors, Stories, and Steam event will be held at the MADD Skillz Barbershop located at 2445 Salem Road, Conyers, Georgia, on Saturday, May 27th from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Don't miss it!

Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival



On March 25th, 2017, the Conyers Rockdale Library System attended the Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival at the Georgia International Horse Park. It was a lovely day and fun was had by all! The festival hosts roughly 300 exhibitors, a variety of food booths, and provides multicultural entertainment. According to the organizers, it usually attracts more than 40,000 people each year. Look for our booth in 2018!



Paws for Reading

Paws for Reading, another exciting new program taking place on the first and third Thursdays of every month in the Youth Services Department at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, held its inaugural program on April 6th. Thirteen children read their favorite books to Simba and Zuri, certified therapy dogs from Therapy Dogs International. Simba and Zuri are gentle Rhodesian Ridgebacks who love to listen to stories and receive hugs from children and adults alike. Reading to therapy dogs allows reluctant or shy readers the chance to "read" to a sweet pup, thus taking the fear & anxiety out of learning to read!



Come and read to Simba & Zuri!



**Youth Services
End of Summer
Reading Party**
Save the date!
Friday, July 14th
2:00pm - 4:00pm

Mark Your Calendar

Programs at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library

Adult Services Events

Adult Coloring Club

Every 1st Friday of the month
from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Tied in Stitches

Every 1st Monday of the month
from 6:00pm - 7:30pm

WorkSource Mobile Career Lab

Wednesdays, May 10th, 24th
& June 7th, 21st from
10:00am - 3:00pm

All Adult Services classes and programs meet in the library meeting room (lower level)
For more information, visit our website @ www.conyersrockdalelibrary.org
or pick up a brochure in the Adult Services Department 770-388-5040 ext. 118
Please note: All programs, events, & classes are free and open to the public.
* Registration is required.

Adult Summer Reading Programs

Tai Chi @ the Library:

Wednesdays, June 7th, 14th, 21st,
& 28th from 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Cooking @ the Library

Saturday, June 10th
from 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Preparing For Your First Speech

Tuesday, June 20th
from 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Writing Workshop

Tuesday, June 27th
from 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Sam Wheelock (musician)

Saturday, July 8th
from 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Tae Kwon Do

Saturday, July 22nd
from 2:00 - 4:00pm

Young Adult Events

Anime and Manga Club **

Thursdays, July 6th & August
10th from 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Registration required for new
members. Ages 13-18 years

Tabletop RPG Games **

Wednesdays, May 24th,
June 21st & July 19th from
5:00pm - 7:00pm
No Registration
Required. Ages
12-18 years



Youth Services (including Young Adult Events)

Zaxby's Story Time **

Friday, June 9th
from 11:00am - 12:00pm
Registration Required
Ages 0-5 years



Atlanta Zoo Mobile**

Monday, June 12th
from 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Registration Required (Limit 60
spaces). [First 60 children to
register for Summer Reading
Program gain entry to this event!](#)

For more information about our Children's and Young Adult programs, please visit our website @ www.conyersrockdalelibrary.org
or pick up a brochure in the Youth Services Dept.
For more information contact us at (770) 388-5040 ext. 113
*Registration is required
** Classes and Programs meet in the library meeting room (lower level)

Let's Build It! **

Tuesday, June 13th
from 2:00pm - 3:00pm
No Registration Required
Ages 5-12 years

Engineering Mystery Bags **

Monday, June 19th
from 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Registration Required
Ages 5-12 years

Department of Environmental Services Water Program **

Tuesday, June 27th
from 11:30am - 12:30pm
No Registration Required
All Ages Welcome!

Wii Night & Board Games @ the Library **

Monday, July 10th
from 5:00pm - 6:30pm
No Registration Required
Ages 5-18 years

Summer Family Fun Events Activities for the WHOLE family!

(Adults, Juveniles, & Teens)

Conyers Garden Club "Heirloom Seeds"

Saturday, June 6th
from 2:00pm - 3:00pm
No Registration Required
Families welcome!
(Children ages 6-12 years)

Georgia State BioBus "DNA is for Families" **

Friday, June 23rd from 11:00am - 12:30pm & 1:45pm - 3:00pm
(2 sessions) Registration Required
(Limit 25 per session)* Register with the Youth Services Dept.

Tae-Kwon Do @ the Library **

Saturday, July 22nd from 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Registration Required ** Register with the Adult Services Dept.

Movies @ the Library: **

No Registration Required!
Trolls (PG) - Friday, June 2nd
from 2:00pm - 4:00pm
The Croods (PG) - Friday, June
16th from 2:00pm - 4:00pm



Nancy Guinn Memorial Library

864 Green St., Conyers, GA. 30012
770-388-5040

www.conyersrockdalelibrary.org