

THE FACE OF YOUR LIBRARY SPOT LIGHT ON MARY RICHARDSON



Mary Richardson has been an integral part of the Corning Library for 25 years and will be sadly retiring in June. At the library she primarily takes care of processing new books.

Q If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?

A *Corning in the summers and Florida in the winter.*

Q What's been the favorite part of your job?

A *Seeing the new books come into the library and suggesting books to patrons.*

Q What's the least favorite part of your job?

A *Starting at 8:30am, I'm not a morning person!*

Q What do you think are the most important things in your life?

A *My husband, my children, grandchildren and my Catholic heritage.*

Q What's the best book you've ever read?

A *The Help by Kathryn Stockett is one, but I try to read all the bestsellers.*

Q *What's the funniest thing that has happened at the library?*

A *During a Drug Awareness month we set up displays. My husband loaned us a silk marijuana plant and a display of pills from the school. Of course the pills were fake, but they looked exactly like the real thing, color and size. Someone broke into the library and stole our display. The only things they took were the silk plant and fake pills!*

Q What has been your most memorable experience working at the library?

A *The automation system and computers have made it a wonderful experience.*

Q If you won the lottery, what would be the first thing you would do?

A *Share.*

Q What's the best way to describe yourself?

A *Blessed*

Q What are your plans for the future?

A *Time for my grandsons, travel golf, tennis and bridge*

Everyone from the Northeast Arkansas Regional Library branches wish her the best!

New Web Look

March 15 the Greene County Library Launched an new look for its website. Already it has generated some interest and positive comments.

Some of the new features include:

- Events Calendar showing events happening in the Library and legacy Room.
- Access to our Facebook fan site (you really do need to become a fan. Corning, Piggott, Rector and Randolph also have Facebook pages)
- A way into the catalog and your account from online. Now you can access you account online see what books you have out, renew books and reserve book all from you home computer. Of course if you don't have a computer at home you can always do it the old way – call us.
- Library Application
- Ask the Librarian
- Suggest a book DVD audio book etc
- Request a book DVD audio book etc
- Instant access to new materials added in the last 30 days.
- Better access to ebooks on netlibrary
- Introducing our online book club (coming soon to all branches of the regional library)
- Links to book and movie reviews
- Access to databases from the library and at home
- Homework and study links
- Access to Mango, our online language utility
- Cool Teen and Kid links
- Online tutorials on how to use your library's resources
- More information about your library and its facilities.



Corning Library
613 Pine Street Corning, AR 72422

(870) 857-3453
email: cllibrary@lycos.com
web: www.corninglibrary.org

Mon - Thu 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Greene County Public Library
120 North Twelfth Street, Paragould, AR 72450

(870) 236-8711
email: info@greencountylibrary.com
web: www.greencountylibrary.com

Mon - Thu 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Piggott Public Library
361 West Main Street, Piggott, AR 72454

(870) 598-3666
email: piggottlibrary@yahoo.com
web: piggottlibrary.org

Mon, Tue, Thu 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Randolph County Library
111 West Everett Street, Pocahontas, AR

(870) 892-5617
email: rlanlib@yahoo.com
web: www.randolphcountylibrary.org

Mon, Tue, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wed - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Rector Public Library
121 West 4th Street, Rector, AR 72461-1309

(870) 595-2410
email: rectorlibrary@yahoo.com
web: www.rectorlibrary.com

Mon, Tue, Thu 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Spring 2010

Make a Splash READ!

Water is usually a book's worst enemy. This summer, however, the library is ready to embrace any and everything related to it. The Summer Reading Program theme is "Make a Splash. Read!" and the library is ready to dive in with programs, book titles, music and decorations to match. All five of the library branches will be participating in this program during the summer. The libraries will have hands on programs ranging



from seeing live fish in the Arkansas Game and Fish traveling aquarium to visits from marine biologists from California complete with great white shark jaws. Many of the program dates are different, so people are welcome to attend programs not only at the library closest to you, but at any of the events at any of our branches.

What exactly is the collaborative summer reading program? Public libraries from across the nation join together in the summer reading program through participation in the collaborative summer library program each year. The goal of this program

is to prepare children for continued success through the development of early language skills by encouraging reading. The best way to get kids interested in reading is by showing them at an early age that reading is fun as well as beneficial. Through the summer reading program, the library tries to sponsor programs that cater to a wide variety of interests and then tie those interests in with books. The collaborative program serves as a way to tie in libraries from across the country with one fun theme each year, while allowing the individual libraries the freedom to choose pro-

grams that fit with their local needs.

To go along with the theme of “Make a Splash. Read!”, the libraries have been adding many new books and other materials to their collections. These books have a wide range of topics while keeping with the one theme of water in some form or fashion. These books are meant to peak kids interest in reading while at the same time exposing them to a variety of subjects that they might not even have known were out there. Some of these books will be on special display while others might be on the shelves, but all are free to be checked out and taken home.

In addition to the summer reading events that the libraries will be hosting at the libraries, there is an activity that is even more important that we encourage parents to participate in at home. Reading to your child or encouraging your child to read on their own is vital to kids learning. Kids whose parents actively participate in reading with them will be more likely to have better reading skills throughout life, and will be more likely to enjoy reading. The summer reading program sets reading goals for the kids. With the parents help, kids will read and record their reading on a reading chart. Prizes will be given out throughout the program to those who are reaching their goals. We invite parents to be a part of this aspect of the program and help your child out with this. By doing so, both parents and children will be rewarded with much more than any trinket the library gives away. Quality time spent with children is so important because they don’t stay little long and they will treasure the undivided attention you gave them while reading to them or listening to them read to you.

National Library Week • April 11th - 17th



MAKE A SPLASH PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS				
Corning	Greene	Randolph	Rector	Piggott
Tuesdays @10:00am	Every Wednesday @ 10:30am	Every Thursday @ 10:00am	Every Wednesday @ 9:00am	Every Wednesday @ 11:00am
June 1th Arkansas Game and Fish Mobile Fish Tank	Special Events include June 2 at 1pm Make a Splash with Magic	June 10th Arkansas Game and Fish Mobile Fish Tank	June 2nd Ms Barbi & Her Balloon Animals	June 2nd Ms Barbi & Her Balloon Animals
June 8th Tim McGowan Balloon Animals	June 16th Arkansas Game and Fish Mobile Fish Tank (TBA)	June 17th Tommy Terrific (Wacky Magic)	June 9th The Kiddos	June 9th The Kiddos
June 15th Elrod Magic Show		June 24th Brian and Terri Kinder	June 16th KAIT weather Deck	June 16th KAIT weather Deck
June 22nd Swim Party	July 14th Awards Ceremony	July 8th The Kiddos	June 23rd Arkansas Game and Fish Mobile Fish Tank	June 23rd Arkansas Game and Fish Mobile Fish Tank
Thursday @ 10:00am	July 15th at 1, 2 and 3 Ocean Adventures	July 15th The Balloon Lady	June 30th Brian Kinder	June 30th Brian Kinder
July 1st Brian Kinder		July 22nd Scott Davis		
		July 29th Swim Party and Picnic*		

Northeast Arkansas Regional Library Databases

What comes to your mind when someone mentions the word “library”? Before you stop reading at the mere mention of the word, think about it. Endless aisles of books? A place where someone sternly going “Shhhhhh” is the only sound that dare be made? Today’s libraries are places where children can have fun exploring, where people have free, fast, access to the Internet and where anyone can go to find information about whatever topic they choose. Computers now allow people to access the vast amount of information that is available faster and easier than ever before. In fact, a study published in 2000 by the UC Berkeley School of Information Management and Systems claimed that there were approximately 2.5 billion documents on the Web and that amount was growing at a rate of 7.3 million pages a day. Whew! Your local library is dedicated to keeping up with the newest technology so that you can access this tidal wave of information in an organized manner using reputable sources.

One of the most exciting services that your library offers is free access to over a dozen online databases. Now, I know online databases do not sound fun, exciting, or even useful but to appreciate what they offer, you simply have to look past the term itself. The term online database simply means a collection of information that you use a computer to look at. For instance, online databases often consist of newspaper articles, magazine articles, journal articles, maps, genealogy records, encyclopedia entries. Some databases offer information that can be seen through videos, pictures or sound recordings. Online databases are not just for adults. Databases provide information from elementary school kids looking for science fair project ideas to stu-

dents in college struggling with that dreaded “T” word. Thesis.

Your local library offers you access to many databases remotely using your library card number. You can be at any computer anywhere and use your library card to search for information through our databases. You can find information on poodles while you’re still in your pajamas if you so choose. It’s convenient and available 24 hours a day. To be a useful searching tool, however, the user must be a little familiar with the databases themselves and what they offer. If you have a computer at home, log onto your local library website. These urls are listed at the end of the article. Then, simply go to the online database tab to see the icons of the databases.

Many people are familiar with the Encyclopedia Britannica. The encyclopedia that we know and love also offers their content online as well. This database is a high quality resource that is easy to navigate and find your topic of interest. This database is nice in that it also offers a link in the top right corner that will allow access to Encyclopedia Britannica Kids edition for the younger users.

EBSCOHost is an extensive database that offers a variety of magazine and journal articles. There is a large number of topic-specific resources within this database. This database is good for research papers, patrons needing information on legal issues, medical issues or business-related issues. There is also a section called “Searchasaurus” that is visually appealing for younger students and contains articles and web pages

that are catered to this age group. EBSCOHost contains a Spanish database, a Student Research Center that helps students learn researching techniques, and a Kids Search section that is also good for younger to mid-level students.

Many people are interested in learning new languages which has been driven through the advertising campaign of Rosetta Stone. The library offers a free database called Mango Languages which offers many of the same features as Rosetta Stone. A wide variety of languages is available.

Learning Express Library is a new database that allows users to study and take practice tests. The types of exams range from postal exams, military exams, fire-fighter and police exams, college entrance exams such as the ACT or SAT, and subject improvement exams. There are simply too many areas to list, so you should log onto this database for yourself if you are preparing for an upcoming test. The database gives automatic scores and then shows you how to improve upon your scores.

This is just a sampling of the types of databases that are available for your use. If you need any help with accessing any of these resources, your library is just a phone call or short drive away. We love helping you solve your problems, and we promise not to Shhhhh you to death.

Websites for the Northeast Arkansas Regional Library Branches are located on the front page.