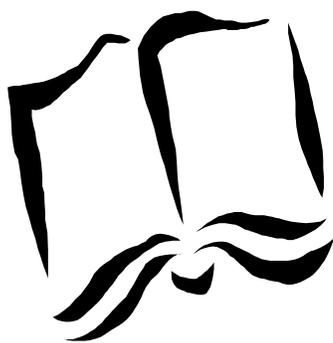


BookBytes



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Tax Forms Available At the Library

The Fairfield County Library has participated for many years in the IRS Tax Form Distribution program. With the IRS no longer mailing forms to individuals, this year the library will be the only local source of forms for the public.

Basic federal forms and instructions will be available as long as the supply lasts. All forms for 2010 as well as prior year forms are online at the IRS website. Forms can be printed at the library, but there is a charge of \$.10 per page printed.

The library will also distribute South Carolina state tax forms.

Forms will be located in the front lobby of the Main Library. The Ridgeway Branch will also have a limited supply of forms available.



A link to the IRS and South Carolina Department of Revenue sites is on the library's webpage. Go to www.fairfield.lib.sc.us and follow the Federal and State Tax Forms links to access forms online.

The library staff encourages you to pick up your forms early, even if you don't file right away. We usually have an adequate supply of the basic forms, but demand may be heavier this year.



SC LENDS Update...

The last BookBytes newsletter announced that the SC LENDS consortium will soon be welcoming six new counties. The following counties will be joining SC LENDS on February 11, 2011. They are

- Allendale, Hampton, Jasper Regional Library
- Colleton County Library
- Kershaw County Library
- Williamsburg County Library

SC LENDS will then cover 25% of the state's population and one third of the state's counties. To date, the consortium has circulated over 5 million items.

DIRECTOR'S DESK

SARAH MCMASTER

2011 is going to be a challenge.

If you have been following the news, you know that South Carolina's fiscal outlook for 2011-2012 is pretty grim. While trickle down economics may or may not be helping the overall economy, trickle down cuts are certainly affecting public services in South Carolina and public libraries are not immune.

Last year Governor Sanford vetoed all funding for State Aid to Public Libraries. Library supporters rallied to the cause, and the vetoes were overturned in the General Assembly by a large margin. We may not be so lucky this year, as the fiscal challenge is much greater. Millions of dollars must be found somewhere to balance the budget. Also at risk are local government funds provided to county governments by the state. Any reduction there will also trickle down to public libraries.

Many county libraries in South Carolina have already cut staff and reduced hours due to cuts in local funding. While we have not had any increases in local funding in three years, we are very thankful that we have not sustained any cuts yet.

Local funds pay for staff and operating costs and some materials. All of our State Aid is used to purchase materials. A cut in local funds might mean reduced staff or hours, while a cut in State Aid would mean a large reduction in books and other materials purchased.

The Fairfield County Library is very fortunate that our County Council and County Delegation support the library locally and at the State House. See the related article to the right for some suggestions about how you can speak up for the library.

As always, feel free to reach me by email at sarah@fairifle.lib.sc.us, or by phone at 803 635-4917.

Just for Kids

- Come to Family Nights on January 6th, February 3rd, and March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.
- Remember the Winter Story Hour Series will be every Tuesday afternoon in February at 4:00 p.m.
- When the weather is bad and you can't come to the library, remember you can call Dial-a-Story at 635-2020 to hear a story over the telephone.



Halloween Costume Contest Participants

And the winner is...

December and January are times when many of the "best of year"-type lists are published. The book world presents many annual awards as well. Here is a list of the major awards for genre fiction for adults that are presented each year. You can Google the award name and find a list of current and past winners. The lists are a good way to find new authors to read.

- Mystery Fiction: Edgar Awards, Agatha Awards, and Anthony Awards
- Romance Fiction: RITA Awards
- Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards: Hugo Awards and Nebula Awards

From the Friends...

As mentioned in the Director's Desk at left, this will be a challenging year for public library funding. Members of the Friends can be effective advocates for library services.

Whenever you see elected officials, speak up for the library...at church, at community meetings, at social events. Let them know why the library is important to you personally and to our community as a whole.. Here are some "talking points":

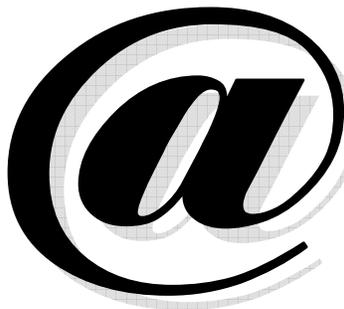
- Using the public library saves money compared to the retail value of the services and materials offered.
- Public libraries help bridge the digital divide. Library computers and wireless Internet access serve citizens who do not have or cannot afford those services at home. Whether it's filling out a job application, taking an online course, getting government forms, or just checking email...the library provides access for everyone.
- Public libraries support education for all ages... from birth to death.
- Public libraries are an important measure of the quality of life in a community, something that is important to new businesses and residents.
- Public libraries provide an important community space...for reading, for study, for research, for programs.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL...

...from the library!

This is a reminder about one of the services available from the library:

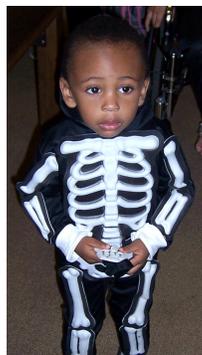
Patrons who have an email address in their patron registration file can receive notification of requested books by email. Overdue notices can be received that way as well, and **no notice fee** will be assessed as there



is no postage cost for the library.

If you would like to take advantage of this service, please ask a staff member to enter your email in our records. It would be helpful to have this address in writing, as it is easier to enter correctly that way. You will be responsible for keeping your address up-to-date in our files.

A few scenes from 2010...



FAIRFIELD COUNTY LIBRARY

Main Library

300 Washington Street
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180
Phone: 803 635-4971
Fax: 803 635-7715
Hours: M,Tu,W,F 9-6 Th 9-9 Sat 9-1

Ridgeway Branch Library

175 S. Palmer Street
Ridgeway, South Carolina 29130
Phone/Fax: 803 337-2068
Hours: M-Th 2-6

Bookmobile

Phone Main Library at 803 635-4971

Dial-A-Story 803 635-2020

www.fairfield.lib.sc.us

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Winnsboro, SC
29180

Library Events ~~~ January-March, 2011

Main Library

January 6 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night
January 26 at 5:00 p.m. Friends Board Meeting
February 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 4:00 p.m.
Winter Story Hour Series
February 3 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night
February 23 at 5:00 p.m. Friends Board Meeting
March 3 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night
March 30 at 5:00 p.m. Friends Board Meeting

Ridgeway Branch Library

January 6 at 4:00 p.m. Story Hour
February 3, 10, 187 and 24 at 4:00 p.m.
Winter Story Hour Series
March 3 at 4:00 p.m. Story Hour

The Library Will Be Closed

Friday, December 31st &
Saturday, January 1st
for New Year's Day
and
Monday, January 17th
for Martin Luther King Day

