

Chestatee Highlighter

Chestatee Regional Library System
Serving Dawson and Lumpkin Counties

Volume 13, Number 12

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www.chestateelibrary.org

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

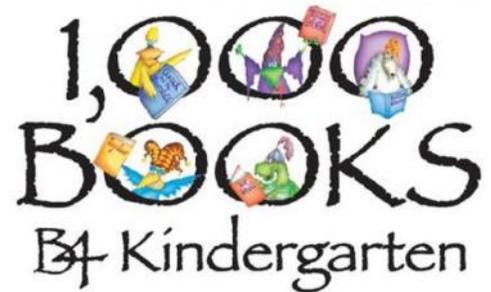
Did you know only 53 percent of children ages 3-5 in the United States are read to daily by a family member? Did you know that children who are read to regularly are more likely to know their alphabet, count higher, write their own name, and read themselves?

There are so many ways we can help children prepare for reading, writing, and kindergarten, and Chestatee Regional Library System is here to help! 1,000 Books B4 Kindergarten is a program developed by the Georgia Public Library Service in an effort to make sure Georgia's children have the necessary skills and enrichment needed to help them thrive once they reach kindergarten.

Fun and easy, 1,000 Books B4 Kindergarten encourages you to keep track of all the books you and your child read together. This includes stories you hear at the library, in preschool or daycare, and while attending religious services. All books and stories count! Children often enjoy sharing the same book or story multiple times, and every time you share it – it counts!

Simply stop by the Lumpkin or Dawson library, sign up, and receive a reading log. In Lumpkin County, you can watch your child's progress as his or her horse makes its way around the race track in the children's department. In Dawson County, watch as his or her pirate ship makes its way to buried treasure. You'll also find encouragement and prizes along the way!

This program is available for children birth through Pre-K. So stop in, sign up, and help your child get ready for reading fun and kindergarten!



Friends of the Library Giving Away a Year of Chocolate

Imagine giving your sweetheart a box of chocolate covered strawberries for Valentine's Day and then following that up, every month for a year, with a box of chocolate from Dahlonega's world-famous Fudge Factory.

Twelve months of chocolate could be yours if you win the Friends of the Lumpkin County Library (FLCL) Year of Chocolate raffle in February 2016. For a chance to win, you can purchase raffle tickets at the Lumpkin County Library or from a Friends of the Library board member. Tickets will go on sale in January.

All money raised by the raffle is used for Lumpkin Library projects. This year's Year of Chocolate raffle brought in over \$5,000, thanks to a matching grant from the Modern Woodmen of America. The money raised in the 2015 Year of Chocolate fundraiser helped purchase new shelves for the children's area of the library. The 2016 raffle funds will go to financing the Lumpkin Library's summer reading program.

For more information, contact Diane Bates, dbates@batescommunications.com.





Spotlight on Services

ADULT PROGRAMMING

Part of the mission statement for the Chestatee Regional Library System states, "CRLS enhances our community's quality of life by offering lifelong learning opportunities...". How do we accomplish this? We are pleased to offer many types of classes and programs for adult members of the community at both of our branches. All classes are provided FREE of charge. We have listed a sampling of several classes that you can enjoy!

Genealogy: Both branches offer beginning genealogy classes, as well as an introductory class to online genealogy databases, such as Ancestry, Fold 3, and Vital Records. Classes are offered that provide an overview of the genealogy resources available at both branches.

Books: Each branch offers an adult book discussion group, and our Dawsonville branch offers a newly-started Georgia history book discussion group. We often host author talks and author signings of recently released books. Used book sales are ongoing at each branch.

Computers & Technology: We offer beginner's classes in Instagram, Facebook, Pinterest, and others. Both branches offer patrons the opportunity to bring in any of their electronic devices, such as eReaders, iPads, etc., for one-on-one assistance in how to get started. We also offer basic computer classes, such as Introduction to the Internet, Computer & Email basics, and introduction to Google chrome and Google chrome devices.

Art-Based Classes: In addition to a weekly adult coloring program at the Lumpkin library, both branches will be offering new monthly "Art Exploration" classes for adults that will include acrylic painting and various other art-based classes.

Scrabble Club: Our new Scrabble club for adults at the Lumpkin County branch provides all supplies needed to enjoy a rousing game of Scrabble with other adults in the community.

641 Cookbook Club: The 641 Cookbook Club is a fun group of people who like to share recipes and get ideas from cookbooks in the library. Members of the group are asked to stop by the Dawson library

Community Interest: Community blood drives, AARP safe driving classes, and other events are offered throughout the year as well.

Please check our website at www.chestateelibrary.org for a complete listing of dates and times for individual programs.

We would love to hear from you about other types of programs that you might enjoy participating in at the library. If you would like to lend your expertise and instruct a class, we would love to hear from you! Please email Tracey Thomaswick at tthomaswick@chestateelibrary.org at the Lumpkin County Branch or Stacey Leonhardt at sleonhardt@chestateelibrary.org at the Dawson County Branch. You may also call the libraries to share your ideas. (Dawson 706-344-3690; Lumpkin: 706-864-3668). Come on in and see how our libraries are truly community gathering places.

Star Wars Marathon

Dawson County Library

Saturday, December 5, 2015 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

In celebration of the release of The Force Awakens - Star Wars Episode VII, the library welcomes all fans to share the fun of a Star Wars marathon! We'll kick off the celebration with a spectacular program about all things Star Wars with author Trisha Slay from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM, then we'll begin the movie marathon at 1:00 PM! We'll be showing A New Hope, The Empire Strikes Back, and Return of the Jedi back to back. The library will provide drinks and popcorn. Bring a blanket or pillow to make yourself comfortable. This event is FREE and open to all.



Gingerbread House Workshop

Saturday, December 12, 2015

3 Sessions at Each Location

Lumpkin County Library: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 12:30 - 1:30 PM, & 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Dawson County Library: 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, & 2:00 PM



Deck your gingerbread halls with gumdrops, peppermints, chocolate kisses and more! Space is limited. Please sign up at the Circulation Desk. \$5 donation requested.

Thanks to You!

The following have given us 90 volunteer hours worth \$ 2,093.40 in November:

Joyce Ball • Ellen Barlament • Reg Barlament

Jody Carlson • Linda Dobson • Nan Donay

Ann Evans • Amy Hood • Hazel Kilgore

Leslie Kupkowski • Mary Beth Mitchell

Cara Mulkey • Susan Newell • Beth Paul

Michelle Pollard • Susan Roof • Pam Sheffield

Clare Tanner • Michael Thomas

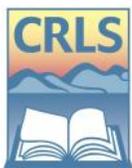
The following have given recent donations totaling

\$ 3,298.20:

Friends of the Lumpkin County Library

Gratitude Group

If you have made a donation or volunteered during November and your name is not listed, please accept our apology, and call us so we can correct our records.



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December Happenings

BOOKS

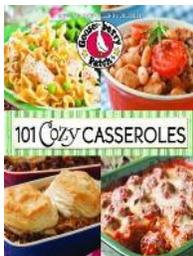
641 Cookbook Club

Dawson County Library

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 12:00 PM

The 641 Cookbook Club is a fun group of people who like to share recipes and get ideas from cookbooks in the library.

There is a special display in the library featuring the cookbook for each month. Members of the group are asked to stop by the library and choose a recipe to make for the next meeting. Members are asked to check out the 641 section of the library (Dewey decimal number for cookbooks) and see if there is a cookbook that they would like to recommend for a meeting. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month for lunch. This month the group will be making recipes from 101 Cozy Casseroles. Come hungry!

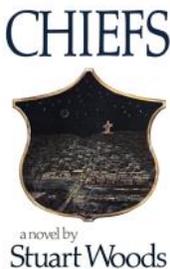


Georgia History Book Club

Dawson County Library

Wednesday, December 16, 2015 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Do you love reading books about Georgia History??? Then you will love to join this book club. The book club meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 2:00 PM. The book for December is The Chiefs by Stuart Woods. Ask the circulation staff for a copy today!

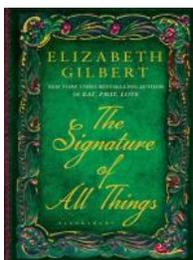


Pageturners

Dawson County Library

Thursday, December 10, 2015 1:00 PM

The Page Turners book discussion groups rotate discussing fiction, non-fiction, and award-winning books. New members are welcome! Please ask a staff member if you would like to reserve a copy of this month's book. The group will be discussing The Signature of All Things by Elizabeth Gilbert.



ADULT

American Red Cross Bloodmobile

Lumpkin County Library

Wednesday, December 23, 2015 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Give the gift of life this holiday season! The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at the Lumpkin County Library. This is a critical-needs time for the American Red Cross, so please consider donating blood that day.



"Just Words" Scrabble Club

Lumpkin County Library

Tuesday, December 8 & 22, 2015 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Join us the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month for our new Scrabble Club. All materials will be provided. Players of all skill levels are welcome! Come have F-U-N!



Art Exploration

Dawson County Library

Wednesday, December 9, 2015 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Looking for a fun, artistic opportunity? Look no further! The library will be hosting monthly art programs for beginner adults to explore their artistic spirit. Every month students will work with a different art media the masterpiece is up to you. Supplies are included and the entire program is FREE!! Registration is required. Call 706-344-3690 or stop by the circulation desk to sign up.



Colorama Adult Coloring Program

Lumpkin County Library

Wednesday, December 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2015 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

You are invited to the Adult Coloring Program at the Lumpkin County Library. Drop in and be creative, de-stress, and color! All materials are provided. Ages 18 and up.



CHILDREN

Full STEAM Ahead

Lumpkin County Library

Tuesday, December 22, 2015 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Each month we will be focusing-in on a topic related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math in a fun and hands-on way. December's topic: Little Bits gadgets. Open to students: K-5th grade.



Reading to Dogs

Lumpkin County Library

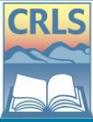
Saturday, December 5, 2015 1 PM - 2 PM

Dawson County Library

Tuesday, December 15, 2015 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Reading to dogs helps children build self confidence in a comfortable, accepting environment. This is an opportunity for your child to practice his or her reading skills for fifteen minutes, working one-on-one with a therapy dog and his or her trainer. Register at the circulation desk or call 706-864-3668 in Lumpkin County or 706-344-3690 in Dawson County.





COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Ebook/Zinio Q&A Sessions
Lumpkin County Library
Wednesday, December 16, 2015
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Schedule an individual 1-hour session with the Information Specialist to get help downloading library e-books and/or digital magazines (Zinio) onto your Kindle, Nook, iPad, or other device. Bring your device(s) to the appointment. Please call 706-864-3668 to sign up.



Gadget Overload
Dawson County Library
Tuesday, December 1, 2015 All Day

Did someone buy you a Kindle Fire for a gift and you have no idea where to begin how to use it? Did you just buy your first iPad and have no idea to turn it on? Well look no further. Colby Hunter will be on call all day to answer any questions you have about your device. Registration is required. To register, call 706-344-3690.



Google Docs Class
Lumpkin County Library
Wednesday, December 2, 2015
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Did you know that if you have a Gmail account, you also have access to a set of online word processing documents? Learn how to create, save, and email Google documents from any computer or device that has internet access. Registration is required, with a class size limited to 5. Please call 706-864-3668 to sign up.



Introduction to Computers and the Internet

Lumpkin County Library
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

This class will teach the basics of using a Windows computer, including the basic parts of a computer and troubleshooting. We will also explore the basics of internet navigation. No prior knowledge is required. Class size is limited to 4. Please call 706-864-3668 to sign up.



FAMILY

A Christmas Carol
Dawson County Library
Tuesday, December 1, 2015 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

A Christmas Carol is one of the most beloved holiday stories of all time. On December 1st, join historian Sloane Meyer as she helps us discover this classic tale and its author. Sloane will present this fun and enlightening program in full Victorian dress. Light refreshments will be served from 5:30-6 PM, with the program following from 6-7 PM. Recommended for adults, teens, and older children.



Holiday Pajama Storytime
Dawson County Library
Tuesday, December 15, 2015 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

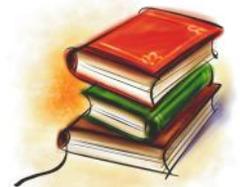
Lumpkin County Library
Thursday, December 17, 2015 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Put on your snuggiest PJ's, and join us for a very special holiday storytime! We'll share a couple of stories, holiday songs, rhymes, and even create a fun craft to take home. All ages welcome! FREE holiday fun for the whole family!



Nu2U Friends of the Library Book Sale
Lumpkin County Library
Saturday, December 5, 2015 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

In partnership with the Friends of Lumpkin Library, there will be a book sale in the downstairs book sale room of the Lumpkin County Library. Come and shop for great books and great values! During the book sale this month, there will be a special collection of rare and collectible books for sale. Come shop for that special person for the holidays!



Theater Thursday
Lumpkin County Library
Thursday, December 10, 2015 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Grab the family for free movie fun at the library. We will be playing *The Polar Express*. Free popcorn will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own snacks too!



GENEALOGY

The Family Tree Genealogy Club Dawson County Library

The Family Tree Genealogy Club will not be meeting for the month of December. We will meet again starting on 01/21/2016. Happy Holidays to you and your family.

Ancestry Library Edition Basics (Part 2) Lumpkin County Library

Thursday, December 17, 2015
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

The second part of this class,  Ancestry Library Edition (ALE) is a database that can be accessed from any of the library's public computers. If you've ever been interested in using Ancestry but didn't know where to start, this class is for you! Prerequisite: students should have already taken ALE Part 1. Class size is limited to 5. Please call 706-864-3668 to sign up.

TEENS

Discovery Club Lumpkin County Library

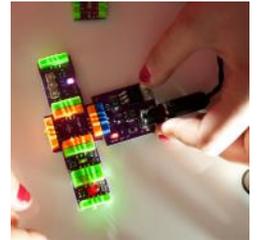
Tuesday, December 15, 2015 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Every 3rd Tuesday we will be discovering and exploring a new topic! December's topic: Little Bits gadgets. Open to grades 6th - 12th.



Teen STEAM Dawson County Library Thursday, December 3, 2015 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Explore the wonderful worlds of science, technology, engineering, art, and math every month! December's topic: Little Bits gadgets.



Lego Club Dawson County Library - All Ages Monday, December 7, 2015 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Lumpkin County Library - Grades K-5th and 6th-12th

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Join us for LEGO building fun! We provide the LEGO's and you provide the talent!



Full STEAM Ahead Dawson County Library - Tweens Tuesday, December 8, 2015 4:00 PM

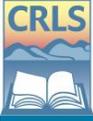
Full STEAM ahead! Explore the wonderful worlds of science, technology, engineering, art, and math every month! December's topic: Little Bits gadgets.



December Closings

- ◆ **Thursday, December 24 - Saturday December 26.**
We will reopen Monday, December 28.
Dawson County Library and Chestatee Satellite will reopen at 10:00 AM
Lumpkin County Library will reopen at 10:30 AM
- ◆ **Thursday, December 31 - Friday January 1st.**
Dawson and Lumpkin County Libraries will reopen on Saturday, January 2 at 10:00 AM.

Chestatee Regional Library System wishes you a safe and happy holiday season



WINTER WEATHER CHECKLISTS

All the weather folks are saying the country is in an *El Nino* weather pattern. That means rain, rain, and more rain. But mix rain with freezing temperatures and the North Georgia mountains could have a repeat of Snowmageddon 2014. Will you be ready? Check out this excerpt from the CDC's webpage and read more about how to be ready for winter at: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/beforestorm/supplylists.asp>

Stock up on emergency supplies for communication, food, safety, heating, and vehicles in case a storm hits.

Communication Checklist

- Make sure you have at least one of the following in case there is a power failure:
 - * Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries.
 - * Battery-powered radio, with extra batteries, for listening to local emergency instructions
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio receiver for listening to National Weather Service broadcasts.
- Find out how your community warns the public about severe weather:
 - * Siren, Radio, Television, Local public health and emergency management websites
- Listen to emergency broadcasts.
- Make a Family Communication Plan. Your family may not be together during an extreme winter event, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together, and what you will do during an emergency.
- Be sure to check on older neighbors and family members; assist as necessary.
- Know what winter storm warning terms mean:
 - * **Winter Weather Advisory:** Expect winter weather condition (e.g., accumulation of snow, freezing rain, and sleet) that could cause severe inconvenience and life-threatening hazards.
 - * **Frost/Freeze Warning:** Expect below-freezing temperatures.
 - * **Winter Storm Watch:** Be alert; a storm is likely.
 - * **Winter Storm Warning:** Take action; the storm is in or entering the area.
 - * **Blizzard Warning:** Seek refuge immediately! Snow and strong winds, near-zero visibility, deep snow drifts, and life-threatening wind chill.
 - * **Other terms are available from NOAA.**

Car and Emergency Checklist

Minimize travel, but if travel is necessary, keep the following in your vehicle:

- Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper
- Battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Water
- Snack food
- Extra hats, coats, and mittens
- Blankets
- Chains or rope
- Tire chains
- Canned compressed air with sealant for emergency tire repair
- Road salt and sand
- Booster cables
- Emergency flares
- Bright colored flag or help signs
- First aid kit
- Tool kit
- Road maps
- Compass
- Waterproof matches and a can to melt snow for water
- Paper towels

