



An Open Letter to the Citizens of Glynn County about the St. Simons Island Public Library

The Three Rivers Regional Library System (the "System") and Georgia Public Library Service are committed to providing first-quality library facilities and information services to all the citizens of Glynn County at both the Brunswick-Glynn County Library and at the St. Simons Island Public Library - the only facilities in Glynn County that are officially recognized by both the state and federal governments as public libraries and as parts of our System.

Our System plans to continue to operate a public library on St. Simons Island that delivers the full array of information services that its patrons have come to rely on since the inclusion of the St. Simons Island Public Library (the "Library") as a branch library of the System in 2007. These services include Internet connectivity with high speed data transfer, Wi-Fi, access to the PINES library catalog, an automated circulation system, access to the GALILEO virtual library, technology support, regional courier service, state-wide interlibrary loans of books and other materials, state paid and certified librarians providing consulting services, and state/federal grants for programming and materials.

The inclusion of the Library as a branch library of the System began with an Agreement dated the 24th of October, 2007, by and between St. Simons Island Public Library Support Fund, Inc. and Brunswick-Glynn County Library (the "Agreement"). The Agreement includes certain provisions governing the parties' relationship, including a term of five years unless the Agreement is not renewed. On October 18, 2011, the Three Rivers Regional Library System Executive Committee, acting pursuant to the authority granted in O.C.G.A. § 20-5-41 and the System's constitution and bylaws, voted that it could not permit renewal of the Agreement. This decision was due to unanswered questions including, but not limited to, those related to financial disclosures and transparency regarding the St. Simons Island Public Library Support Fund, Inc. (the "Support Fund"). These issues have come to light through the dispute with the St. Simons Library League (the "League").

The System plans to continue to operate the St. Simons Island Public Library as a branch of the Glynn County Libraries. The System wishes to extend sincere thanks to the many volunteers of the Support Fund and League for their efforts in support of the Library.

The Three Rivers Regional Library System strongly encourages Friends groups or other formal associations of volunteers that support libraries in all 10 libraries within our System. A properly organized group supporting a library in accordance with established rules is important to a vibrant library. We invite those interested in forming a Friends group or volunteering at the St. Simons Island Public Library to contact the Library Manager, Mrs. Jenny Herring at the Library during business hours.

This Open Letter to the Community is paid for by the Saint Simons Island Public Library,
a member of the Three Rivers Regional Library System