

JACKSON-GEORGE REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From Then to Now: JGRLS Celebrates the Evolution of the Library Card *One Card. Endless Possibilities.*

PASCAGOULA, Miss. — Library cards may have changed through the years, but their purpose remains the same: connecting people to information, opportunity, discovery, and their community.

This September, the **Jackson-George Regional Library System (JGRLS)** invites the community to celebrate **Library Card Sign-Up Month** with a special look at **“The Evolution of the Library Card.”**

From the library cards tucked into wallets decades ago to today's cards that provide access to both physical and digital resources, the library card has evolved alongside the communities JGRLS serves.

What was once primarily a key to the books on library shelves is now a gateway to so much more. Today's JGRLS library card can connect patrons with books and audiobooks, digital collections, educational resources, technology, programs, entertainment, research tools, and opportunities for lifelong learning.

Throughout September, JGRLS will celebrate library cards from the past and present while encouraging residents who don't have a card to discover what today's library has to offer.

Do you still have an old library card? JGRLS would love for community members to join the celebration by sharing memories and photos of library cards from years past. Staff and community members have already begun reconnecting with cards that hold special memories:

“This is my card I’d forgotten I had until a year or so ago when I found it in my ‘treasure box.’ I got it from the Moss Point library pre-Katrina! Had my mother’s name on it since I was still a juvenile.” — William Burgess

“Mine is one of the older designs! With my mom’s signature on the back to sign for my card because I was a juvenile whenever I got it. So special to me!” — Amber McMahon

“I used to have the paper card with the metal in it when I was a kid, but I always stuck it in my back pocket of my jeans, forgot it was there, and Mom would wash clothes and my library card would disintegrate!” — Jeanne Damiano

These stories are a reminder that a library card can be more than something kept in a wallet—it can become part of a family’s story and a connection to the community across generations.

And if you haven't visited your library lately, September is the perfect time to come back.

The card has evolved. The library has evolved. Now discover what your library card can do for you.

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Stop by any Jackson-George Regional Library System location during Library Card Sign-Up Month or visit www.jgrls.org to learn more.