gls news

Veterans resource fair coming to Rome on May 16

On Thursday, May 16, GLS librarians will staff a table at the Northwest Georgia We CARE Vet Fair in Rome. As one of more than 90 professional agencies represented at the event, GLS is ready to help U.S. veterans and their families connect with services to improve their lives.

The We CARE Vet Fair was launched in 2022 by United Military Care, a Georgia nonprofit aiding veterans since 2012. Located strategically in different regions of the state, the events offer an essential opportunity for veterans and service members of all ages to engage directly with professionals in a variety of fields. These face-to-face interactions allow veterans to understand, apply for, and access helpful programs and benefits they have earned.

Veterans, active duty personnel, National Guard members, reservists, families, and caregivers can apply for

GLS Outreach librarians at the We CARE Vet Fair in Marietta in 2023.

military benefits, check the status of claims, file appeals, and learn about a multitude of programs and services available in their communities.

Organizers of the Rome event are expecting 3,500 veterans from 16 northwest Georgia counties. Among the special features of this event are veteran ID cards, free lunch, free haircuts, golf, support animals, expert

A newsletter for friends of the Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled

Veterans resource fair, continued

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panels, live entertainment, e-gaming tournaments, and an immersive exhibit based on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

As a network library of the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, GLS was originally created specifically to meet the needs of veterans. Veterans still receive priority service—whether or not their disability is service-related. We are proud to show up for veterans at We CARE Vet Fair events all over Georgia.

The Northwest Georgia We CARE Vet Fair is located at the Forum River Center, 301 Tribune St, Rome, GA 30161. The event runs all day from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and parking is free. For details, visit https://www.wecarevetfair.com/.

Meet new GLS employee Tran Keller

Tran Keller, an assistant in the GLS Distribution Center (GDC), is the newest member of the GLS team. Tran graduated from Augusta University with a B.A. in communications in December 2021. While looking for work in his field, he entered metro Atlanta's lively film and television production scene, working as a background actor and sharing the screen with some big names in show business.

When the opportunity came to join the Georgia Public Library Service in early 2023 as an administrative coordinator, Tran seized it. Almost a year later, he moved into the GDC. As a new GLS employee, Tran is receiving orientation on all aspects of our work, including taking a turn representing the library at an event with GLS Outreach.

Tran Keller

Tran sees an overall theme of growth in his life right now. At home, he has taken in a stray kitten named Oreo, who is growing into a beautiful and affectionate tuxedo cat. At work, Tran is proud to be learning and growing into his power in service to the GLS mission, and we are delighted to have him.

The 2024 GLS Summer Reading Program is now open for registration. This year's program runs from June 1 through July 31, with opportunities to engage both in person and online. Readers of all ages can earn points by logging their reading hours and other activities, with a chance to win a cool prize at the end.

GLS patrons in middle Georgia should mark their calendars for the GLS Summer Reading Kickoff Party on Friday, June 7 at 1:00 p.m. at Macon's historic Washington Memorial Library. The free all-ages event is open to all, and will feature music, storytelling, snacks, and interactive fun that everyone can enjoy.

Weekly reading club meetings in June and July will offer summer readers of all ages and their families an opportunity to gather in a virtual room and chat about books and other topics. Author talks and story times hosted by NLS are back this summer, along with new interactive online activities.

Call 800-248-6701 or email gls@georgialibraries.org to begin your summer reading adventure with GLS.

GDC earns kudos

The GLS Distribution Center (GDC) team recently received pins from NLS as a token of appreciation for perfect record keeping and accountability on machine inventory. Way to go, GDC!

Don't miss our recurring programs on Zoom:
- **Tech Talk - Monthly: Second Tuesday, 10 a.m.-12 noon**
- **Peer Support Group - Monthly: Third Wednesday, 2-4 p.m.**
- **For Grown Folks Only Book Club - Bimonthly (May, July): Second Wednesday, 2-4 p.m.**

GEORGIA PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

gls Georgia Library Service for the blind and print disabled

NLS NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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