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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **National Library Week Open House**

(PANAMA CITY, FL) – The Bay County Public Library will join libraries in schools, campuses and communities nationwide in celebrating the dynamic changes that are happening in today’s libraries. April 10-16 is National Library Week, a time to highlight the changing role of libraries, librarians, and library workers.

Libraries aren’t only a place of quiet study, but also creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies, learn how to use a 3D printer, or just relax.

Our library offers access to a variety of print and digital resources, including *Britannica Online* and the Florida Electronic Library that can be accessed in person or online.

Libraries of all types are evolving to meet the needs of the communities they serve. At the Bay County Public Library we are transforming by providing classes for children and adults, including technology classes for all ages.

“Service to the community has always been the focus of the library,” said Regina Burgess, Community Relations & Marketing Coordinator for the library. “Libraries level the playing field for people of any age who are seeking the information and access to technologies that will improve their quality of life.”

Libraries are many things to many people. They work with elected officials, small business owners, students, and the public at large to discover and address the needs of their communities. Whether through offering e-books and technology classes, materials and classes for English-language learners, programs for job seekers, or offering a safe haven in times of crisis, libraries and librarians listen to the community they serve, and they respond.

The Bay County Public Library is celebrating National Library Week by hosting an open house on April 13 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We’ll kick off our celebration at 11 a.m. with a performance by the Pyramid Fine Arts School Choir. Then various departments in the library will discuss the many services we offer to the community.

**Event Schedule:**

- 11:00 a.m. Pyramid Fine Arts School Choir
- 12:00 p.m. Technical Services -- learn the behind-the-scenes secrets of how we process new books and other items
- 12:45 p.m. Law Library -- learn what resources our law library has for you
- 1:30 p.m. Local History and Genealogy -- learn about the fabulous resources and professional assistance we can offer you
- 2:15 p.m. Adult Services & Reference -- learn about how we choose library items, how we research your information needs, and how we teach computer classes
- 3:00 p.m. Adult Literacy -- learn about our English as a Second Language classes, reading & pronunciation classes, and US Citizenship classes
- 3:45 p.m. Circulation -- learn how to do self check-out, how to place items on hold, and how to renew items online
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Services -- learn about the resources we offer children and teens and listen to a fun storytime

Come for a session or stay all day! Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Bay County Public Libraries.

The Bay County Board of County Commissioners will proclaim the week of April 10-16 National Library Week during their April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Bay County Public Library is located at 898 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street in Panama City. For more information, please call the library at 522-2100 or visit [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com).

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