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## Spotlight on Construction: St. Simons' Library Welcomed 70th Anniversary in New Facility

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## St. Simons' library welcomed 70th anniversary in new facility

In January 2007, the St. Simons Public Library held a grand reopening event to mark its return from temporary facilities into its newly renovated home — just in time for its 70th anniversary on March 16.

"We have 1,200 extra square feet of space — and much more to offer — in the renovated building," said Libby Hogan, chair of the library's board of directors. "But we still have the same ready-to-serve atmosphere as always."

Although the St. Simons Public Library is housed in a historic casino, the board recently chose not to gamble with its future as a stand-alone facility. In July 2006, two-thirds of the way through an 18-month renovation that began a year earlier, St. Simons joined the Three Rivers Public Library System (TRRLS) and PINES (Public Information Network for Electronic Services), bringing its patrons access to more than 8.5 million items owned by other PINES member libraries.

"The affiliation has been great for the library," said Joe Shinnick, director of TRRLS, "because it no longer has to be all things to all people. Having St. Simons as a part of TRRLS also means a lot to the people of Glynn County, because they now have a second



Staff members Dewey Darby, Lisa Bunch and Manager Maureen Hersey take pride in their library's "ready-to-serve atmosphere."

public library here. The St. Simons staff and patrons are a very active and dedicated group of people, and we are delighted to have them as full members of our family."

### Spotlight On CONSTRUCTION

The library is located in a high-visibility area at the northern end of Neptune Park. Sharing the building with the St. Simons Island Visitors Center, it sits in the shadow of the 104-foot St. Simons Island Lighthouse, one of the most recognizable landmarks on Georgia's coast. According to manager Maureen Hersey, the library currently has approximately 35,000 volumes. ►►



Comfortable seating and clean design elements make the reading room a focal point of the new St. Simons library.