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## \$1 Million to Purchase Genealogy Materials

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## 'Classic Rock Cares' at Parks Memorial

Parks Memorial Library, Richland, has received musical instruments from the John Entwistle Foundation for a program to promote music education among children. The library now has an electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and amplifiers as part of the Check-Out Music program.

This past summer, the John Entwistle Foundation launched an eight city tour known as Classic Rock Cares. This was to be the first concert tour designed specifically to raise funds for the foundation's mission of free music education and instruments through the public library system. The program known as Check-Out Music invites anyone to come into the library and try out a guitar, bass or keyboard. The idea is to offer children an alternative to less desirable activities. We might even discover a musical virtuoso in the process.

The classic rockers that took part in the tour were Brian Johnson and Cliff Williams of the rock super group AC/DC; Mark Farner, formerly of Grand Funk Railroad; Joe Lynn Turner, former singer for Deep Purple and Rainbow; and Steve Luongo of the John Entwistle Band. Guest appearances at random shows included Robin Zander of Cheap Trick, Scotti Hill of Skid Row, Buck Dharma of Blue Oyster Cult and Eddie Money. Even comedian and "Saturday Night Live" alum Jim Breuer and Coach Jon Gruden of the Tampa Bay Bucks joined in for the fun.

Shortly after the tour concluded, Pepper Weldin of Parks Memorial Public Library in Richland, e-mailed the foundation. Weldin read an article in *Rolling Stone* about the foundation's mission and the tour. She asked if the foundation would consider her library for a program. Pepper's e-mail went on to say how much the community's children would benefit from this program. Her passionate cry in the name of Richland's youth was enough to convince the foundation to spring into action and begin shipping instruments to her location. These programs are free to libraries once they have been approved.

The Check-Out Music in Richland program is now up and running and invites everyone to visit the library and pick up an instrument. The program will continue to grow over time with the addition of recording software, more instruments and visits by music teachers and others in the music field for lectures and lessons.

The John Entwistle Foundation was named for the late bassist of the rock group The Who. It was founded by John's longtime friend and drummer Steve Luongo. In addition to the primary mission of free music education, the foundation has also used live concerts to raise funds for disaster relief and animal welfare. To find out how you can get involved or to make a donation visit the foundation's Web site at [www.johnentwistle.org](http://www.johnentwistle.org) or call 239-482-6880. »»

## \$1 million to purchase genealogy materials

The Muscogee County Library board of trustees has earmarked \$1 million of the \$6.1 million that remained from a 1999 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax that paid for the construction of the Columbus Public Library (Main Branch) for the purchase of materials for the Genealogy and Local History Department of the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System. This represents an important step in our commitment to enhancing our genealogical services. By increasing our available materials, CVRLS is closer to the stated goal of establishing the Genealogy Department as a destination site that draws people from all across the country; economic development at its finest!

The selection process was overseen by genealogy staff members John Lyles, Ginny Stola, Kathy Turton, Dalton Royer and Myra Starling. First, staff concentrated on the purchase of county-level vital and court records from Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. They also concentrated their efforts on records of the American Revolution, the Civil War and of Native Americans held by the National Archives.

Next, it was decided to fill in the gaps in the collection. This included actions such as purchasing missing volumes of serialized monographs and fulfilling the departmental "wish list" that could not be purchased under previous budget allocations. Geographically, these materials cover the American South and the Eastern Seaboard.

Then, the reference and foreign sections were bolstered with the purchase of "how to" manuals and various Irish, Scottish, Italian and German resource materials.

All totaled, we estimate the addition of over 8,000 print titles and 25,000 reels of microfilm to our current collection of 14,000 print titles and 6,000 reels of microfilm. Materials are expected to arrive in late November 2007 and continue until the order is filled by the end of November 2008. »»

