

Library boasts drive-up book return

The Thomas Public Library has installed a new 24-hour drive-up book return. Located at the curb in the parking lot, this facility is an added convenience for library patrons. Now it will not be necessary for individuals to leave their cars in order to return books.

Another recently restored library service is the Dial-A-Story. Persons may call 825-8281 any hour of the day or night and hear a story. The stories change periodically, Children's Librarian Naomi Simmons announced.

Peach Public Libraries Director Jimmy Smith announced that the Peach County libraries in Fort Valley and Byron will have another fine-free week during which patrons may return long overdue books without paying the fines due. The week of January 24-31 has been designated a

fine-free week. Smith elaborated, "There are many long overdue books purchased at taxpayers' expense. This gives patrons the opportunity to return overdue books free of charge before we begin prosecution." By law it is now a misdemeanor to keep overdue library books and materials. As Smith noted, the state legislature has passed a law requiring prosecution of individuals who do not return books after a certain date.

When she was informed of another fine-free week, a well-known library patron remarked, "Oh, let me go and look around some more!" At the time she was returning a book that was overdue.

Response to the recent fine-free week has been good, Smith stated. One book was returned after two and a half years. The book was due in September, 1982.