

## PRESS RELEASE

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*For Immediate Release*

### **Up By their Bootstraps**

*Library records tales of adversity and triumph*

The Georgetown County Library is looking for local folks who have faced tough times and come out on top.

“As Georgetown works through challenges like the Front Street Fire, we could use some real life stories about people who have overcome adversity,” said Library Director Dwight McInvaill. “How did they do it? What can they tell us to help our story have a happy ending?”

The library will conduct video interviews with the participants.

“We come to you at your convenience, and interviews usually take about 40 minutes,” said videographer Heather Pelham. “We’ve interviewed people with all sorts of stories, from living through the Great Depression, to going off to fight in World War II. We’ve heard from local business owners that struggle under red tape and a Recessionary economy, and local residents who had to work twice as hard to pull free from generational poverty.”

The interviews are sponsored by a Smart investing@your library® grant from the American Library Association and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation. The grant also allows the library to offer financial workshops, festivals, books, videos, and one-on-one help.

“The grant has been a wonderful chance to provide information that everyone can use,” McInvaill said. “Our recent Fall Festival of Financial Fitness had over 600 participants, and that’s a lot of savings savvy!”

The interviews will join an extensive oral history collection the library has been recording over the last decade. Georgetown County residents have shared stories about African American history, World War II, the Great Depression, local businesses, coastal hurricanes, and local historical sites, people and events. All videos the library records can be viewed in the library’s Heritage Center, and many are available for checkout.

If you are interested in sharing your story with the library, please call Heather Pelham at (843) 545-3327. And trust us, you have a tale to tell.

“Just before we turn on the camera, interviewees always tell us they don’t have much to say,” said McInvaill. “They’re wrong - every interview has turned out fascinating. What’s your story?”