



NEWSRELEASE
MEDIA CONTACTS:

Heather Wise/Greenville Literacy Association
864.467.3461/ wise@greenvilleliteracy.org
Jane Thomas/Greenville Literacy Association
864.467.3556/ thomas@greenvilleliteracy.org

NINTH ANNUAL BOOK SALE KICKS OFF

GREENVILLE, S.C., (June 27, 2010) – Once again the Greenville Literacy Association (GLA) will host The Really Good, Really Big, Really Cheap Book Sale to help create awareness about low literacy rates in Greenville County. Now in its ninth year, the Book Sale will be held on Saturday, August 21 from 8:30a.m. to 4 p.m., at McAlister Square on South Pleasantburg Drive. For the first time, early bird shoppers will have the opportunity to pay \$10 admission at the door and enter the sale for an extra hour of shopping at 7:30 a.m.

From June 21 – August 6, businesses and individuals are asked to donate new or used books in good condition to the Book Sale. Collection bins are located at a variety of businesses and public places throughout the Upstate (list of locations is provided below).

The Really Good, Really Big, Really Cheap Book Sale is GLA's largest annual fundraising event and is almost 100 percent volunteer- and donation-driven. Last year, 137,000 books were donated for the sale. 17,000 shoppers attended the sale purchasing 104,000 books and raising \$150,000 to support GLA's adult literacy programs in Greenville County. Throughout the summer, businesses across the Upstate set up collection bins where employees and the public can donate books. Volunteers collect books from the bins each week and sort and price the books according to category and age. On the day of the event, hundreds of volunteers provide manpower to ensure the smooth operation of the sale.

The Book Sale features a wide variety of books from which to choose, including fiction, non-fiction, trade paperback, mass market paperback, children's and young adults, cookbooks, self-help books, travel books

and maps, coffee table books and books about the local region. Prices range from 2/\$1 to \$10 with the majority of books falling within the 2/\$1 to \$5 range.

South Carolina has the lowest high school graduation rate in the nation and its SAT scores are among the lowest in the country. In Greenville County alone, 12% of adults over age 25 are considered to function on one of the lowest levels for reading and math. GLA offers one of the most comprehensive literacy programs in the entire nation.

For over 44 years, GLA has empowered adults to participate more effectively in the community by providing quality instruction in reading, writing, math, and speaking English. The agency depends on hundreds of trained volunteers to provide literacy instruction to thousands of adult literacy participants every year in five learning centers throughout Greenville County. GLA is the largest community-based adult literacy program in South Carolina and one of the most highly developed in the nation.

For more information on The Really Good, Really Big, Really Cheap Book Sale, contact the Greenville Literacy Association (www.greenvilleliteracy.org) at 864-467-3456 or by email at info@greenvilleliteracy.org.

###

Collection centers accepting new and used books from June 21 through August 6:

- **ALL BI-LO SUPERMARKETS in Greenville County**
- **GOLDEN STRIP LEARNING CENTER**
Center for Community Services 1102 Howard Drive Simpsonville, SC 688-2212
- **GREENVILLE LITERACY ASSOCIATION**
McAlister Square 225 S. Pleasantburg Drive, Suite C-10 Greenville, SC 467-3456
- **GREER ATHLETIC CLUB**
905 N. Main Street Greer, SC 877-4647
- **GREER LEARNING CENTER**
J. Harley Bonds Resource Center 505 N. Main Street Greer, SC 848-5370
- **JOHN I. SMITH LEARNING CENTER**
Northwest Crescent Center 925 N. Franklin Drive Greenville, SC 467-3464

- **ROTARY FAMILY LITERACY CENTER**
YWCA 700 Augusta Drive Greenville, SC 373-6312
- **SPORTS CLUB FIVE FORKS**
317 Scuffletown Road Simpsonville, SC 675-5808
- **SPORTS CLUB GREENVILLE**
712 Congaree Road Greenville, SC 288-7220
- **SPORTS CLUB SIMPSONVILLE**
667 S.E. Main Street Simpsonville, SC 228-8282
- **STARBUCKS DRIVE THRUS in Greenville County**
- **WHOLE FOODS MARKET**
1140 Woodruff Road Greenville, SC 335-2300
- **YWCA**
700 Augusta Street Greenville SC 373-6300