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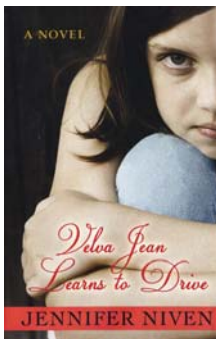
**The Greenville County Library System Presents  
The Amazing Read 2010!**

**Greenville, SC** – Join us in our third annual community-wide read: The Amazing Read 2010! This year's book selection is *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Check out the book, join the discussion and take part in the related library events throughout the county. All events are free.

The Amazing Read 2010 book selection is designed for audiences 18 and older with the intent to encourage discussion and community around literature. For more information, visit [www.greenvillelibrary.org](http://www.greenvillelibrary.org) or call 527-9293.

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**The 2010 Book Selection: *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven**



Set in Appalachia in the years before World War II, *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* is a poignant story of a spirited young girl growing up in the South.

Life in the 1930s brings unwelcome changes for Velva Jean: her loving mother dies, her father leaves and modernization encroaches in the building of the great Blue Ridge Parkway. In this coming-of-age tale, the protagonist consoles herself by singing and finding companionship with her rebellious brother, the infamous Wood Carver and later with a handsome delinquent-turned-revival preacher. As their tumultuous love story unfolds, Velva Jean must choose between keeping her hard-won home and pursuing her dream of singing in the Grand Ole Opry.

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**The Events**

**The Amazing Read Kickoff: Meet the Author**

**Thursday, April 8 • 6:30p-8:00p**  
**Greer (Jean M. Smith) Branch**

Jennifer Niven will read from the Amazing Read 2010 selection *Velva Jean Learns to Drive*, followed by a question and answer session. Books will be available for sale and signing.

**The Amazing Read: Meet the Author**  
**Saturday, April 10 • 3:00p-5:00p**  
**Hughes Main Library, Meeting Rooms B-C**

Jennifer Niven will read from the Amazing Read 2010 selection *Velva Jean Learns to Drive*, followed by a question and answer session. Books will be available for sale and signing.



**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Tuesday, April 13 • 7:00p-8:00p**  
**Taylor's (Burdette) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 268-5955.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Thursday, April 15 • 3:00p-4:00p**  
**Travelers Rest (Sargent) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 834-3650.

**Celebrating the Blue Ridge Parkway**  
**Thursday, April 15 • 6:30p-8:00p**  
**Greer (Jean M. Smith) Branch**

Learn about the history of the Blue Ridge Parkway and discover vacation opportunities for every age and budget. Receive the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the *BRP Planner*. Call 877-8722 to register.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Monday, April 19 • 7:00p-8:30p**  
**Augusta Road (Ramsey Family) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 527-9293.

**Vintage Crafts: Woodcarving**  
**Saturday, April 24 • 10:00a-12:00p**  
**Mauldin (W. Jack Greer) Branch**

Experienced wood carvers from the Piedmont Wood Carvers Club will demonstrate basic techniques and display finished pieces. Also learn about the John C. Campbell Folk School. Call 277-7397 to register.

**Car Smarts**  
**Saturday, April 24 • 10:30a-1:00p**  
**Augusta Road (Ramsey Family) Branch**

Teens and women will learn road safety through defensive driving techniques and basic car maintenance. Teens will learn defensive driving while women learn car maintenance, then the groups will switch. Registration is in progress. Call 277-0161.

**Berea Book Discussion**

**Tuesday, April 27 • 10:00a-11:00a**

**Berea (Sarah Dobey Jones) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 246-1695.

**Simpsonville Book Discussion**

**Tuesday, April 27 • 10:30a-11:30a**

**Simpsonville (Hendricks) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 963-9031.

**Vintage Crafts: Embroidery**

**Tuesday, April 27 • 6:00p-8:00p**

**Mauldin (W. Jack Greer) Branch**

Learn five basic stitches to create a beautiful pincushion or small pillow insert. Learn about the history of embroidery. Space is limited. Call 277-7397 to register.

**Life in 1930s Greenville**

**Thursday, April 29 • 7:00p-8:30p**

**Hughes Main Library, Meeting Rooms A-B**

Using the new *Greenville County Driving Tour of Historic Sites*, the South Carolina Room staff will bring 1930s Greenville to life. See archives, photos, general store ledgers and more. Copies of the driving tour are available for \$4.00. Call 527-9261 to register.



**The Pickup Band**

**Saturday, May 1 • 1:00p-3:00p**

**Simpsonville (Hendricks) Branch**

Welcome back bluegrass favorites *The Drovers Old Time Medicine Show* for an afternoon of Appalachian music. Local musicians are invited to join the band for a portion of the program to play pickup.

**Vintage Crafts: Soap Making**

**Saturday, May 1 • 2:00p-3:30p**

**Taylors (Burdette) Branch**

Learn about the process of handmade soap creation. Join soap maker, "Monkeyshine Soap," from the Foothills of North Carolina to get started on your own soap project.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**

**Tuesday, May 4 • 2:30p-4:00p**

**Hughes Main Library, Meeting Room A**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven. Call 527-9293.

**Fountain Inn Book Discussion**  
**Tuesday, May 4 • 7:00p-8:30p**  
**Fountain Inn (Kerry Ann Younts Culp) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven.  
Call 862-2576.

**Vintage Car Show**  
**Saturday, May 8 • 12:00p-4:00p**  
**Fountain Inn (Kerry Ann Younts Culp) Branch**

Does your car predate the catalytic converter? Show off those vintage wheels! All are welcome to bring their vintage cars to this unique car show at the library. A demonstration of our newly expanded database for engine repairs, big and small will begin at 12:30p. Refreshments will be available.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Thursday, May 13 • 6:30p-8:00p**  
**Pelham Road (F.W. Symmes) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven.  
Call 527-9293.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Friday, May 14 • 12:00p-1:30P**  
**Mauldin (W. Jack Greer) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven.  
Call 527-9293.

**The Amazing Read Book Discussion**  
**Saturday, May 15 • 1:30-2:30p**  
**Anderson Road (West) Branch**

All are welcome to join in a discussion of *Velva Jean Learns to Drive* by Jennifer Niven.  
Call 527-9293.

*Founded in 1921, the Greenville County Library System operates 12 facilities, a bookmobile and a website that provide information, materials and engaging programs delivered with world-class technology and a customer-centric approach. The Library System offers free access to resources and experiences and continually strives to be the community's destination of choice for exploring the world. For more information, visit the Library's website at [www.greenvillelibrary.org](http://www.greenvillelibrary.org).*

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