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*Libraries ...
the medicine chest
of the soul.*
(Inscription over the door,
the library at Thebes.)

TALBOT
COUNTY
FREE
LIBRARY

WEATHERVANE

Fall 2009

Back to School ... with Help from the Library!

The library has so many ways to help students and parents throughout the school year! We offer online homework and research assistance 24/7 through our databases (for example: *Mango Languages*, which teaches conversational skills for 12 languages, including English as a Second Language; *CultureGrams*, a social studies database providing information on daily life, culture, and history of the world's peoples; *World Book Online*, which offers the encyclopedia's vast store of knowledge, plus supplementary videos and images and hyperlinks between entries).

In addition to our regular databases, students can click on the *Live Homework Help* link at the bottom of our home page, select a grade level (K-12, College Intro, or Adult Learner), choose a subject they need help with, and enter Tutor.com's Online Classroom where a certified subject-expert will tutor them in real time—via chat, a virtual drawing board, and website and file sharing—to work through whatever challenge they're facing in school.

Finally, there are all the traditional ways in which the library can help students master their subject matter, everything from books and non-fiction DVDs to the living, breathing human beings—experts on getting the most out of our collection—that staff our Information Desk. We're here to help you!

The Director's Corner

Well, incredibly, fall is upon us. This is the time of year that the library usually gets ready for a lot of things that the summer has pushed aside. But this year we're really gearing up for a major change. By mid-winter everyone will be asking, "Where is the library?" Good question. We are currently looking for space in the town of Easton that will accommodate us for eighteen months while the main building is expanded and renovated.

At this time the architect is hard at work on his drawings for the building. The design phase has been completed. It looks as though all of the necessary drawings will be finished by mid-winter. The library staff has already begun "cleaning house." We have to move and, as anyone who has moved knows, you do not want to carry things with you that you will only have to dispose of after the move! In preparation for the move, the book sale will end in November (we will accept donations through October)

and the meeting room will close in December. We are hoping to make the big move in either December or January. At that time all of the furniture, shelving, and books will be set up in our new (temporary) location.

While in our temporary quarters, the library will streamline its operations so we can continue to provide essential services—circulation, public access computers, and some children's programming. We will not have a meeting room. Some of our programming will have to be held off site. The library's St. Michaels branch will continue to offer its full range of services.

I am looking forward to this move as an adventure. If you look at it in any other way it is too daunting. This project is a long time in coming and I feel very strongly that our community will benefit from this new facility.

Check in with us regularly at the library or on our website to see how the adventure is progressing.

—Robert Horvath—

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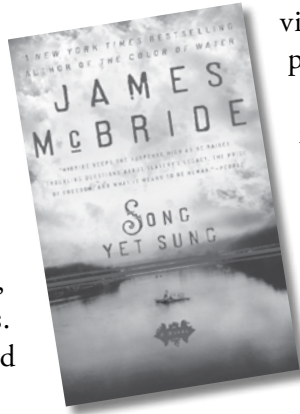
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One Maryland One Book

James McBride's novel *Song Yet Sung* has been selected for this year's One Maryland One Book, the program in which people all across the state read and discuss the same book. Set on Maryland's Eastern Shore in the 1850s, *Song Yet Sung* tells a gripping story of escaped slaves, free blacks, and slave-catchers. The protagonist is an enslaved



woman who develops a gift for prophetic vision following her escape from a local plantation.

James McBride is an award-winning novelist, composer, and screenwriter. Author of the *New York Times* best-selling memoir *The Color of Water*, McBride's first novel, *Miracle at St. Anna*, was made into a 2008 film directed by Spike Lee (available on DVD at the library).

Author Discusses Harriet Tubman Novel

On Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m., in the Easton branch of the Talbot County Free Library, author Beverly Lowry will discuss her book *Harriet Tubman: Imagining a Life*. Lowry is the author of six novels and the nonfiction works *Crossed Over* and *Her Dream of Dreams*. The recipient of the 2007 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, Lowry teaches at George Mason University. Her latest novel has been described as “an astonishing re-imagining of the remarkable life of Harriet Tubman, the ‘Moses of Her People.’”

Meet Harriet Tubman

On Monday, September 21, at 6:00 p.m., Gwendolyn Briley-Strand will present a PowerPoint program entitled, *Harriet Tubman: Meet the Woman*. In 1991 and again in 1992, Briley-Strand performed as Harriet Tubman at the White House for the Fourth of July Celebration. She also has portrayed Harriet Tubman at the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center, and other museums and cultural organizations. This program is made possible by the Maryland Humanities Council.

Ride the Underground Railroad Game through Downtown Easton

On Saturday, October 3, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., the Talbot County Free Library and Historical Society of Talbot County are sponsoring an Underground Railroad Game in downtown Easton. Moving from safe house to safe house, participants who successfully elude Patty Cannon's gang to reach “Freedom's Garden” will have a chance at the \$100 Grand Prize (provided by the Friends of the Library).

Song Yet Sung Book Discussions:

Easton:

Wednesday, September 16, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Monday, October 19, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

St. Michaels:

Thursday, September 24, 6:30 p.m.

Author James McBride will discuss his book:

Wednesday, October 28, 9:30 a.m.
North Dorchester High School
5875 Cloverdale Road, Hurlock

Wednesday, October 28, 7:00 p.m.

Salisbury University
Guerrieri University Center, Wicomico Room
Dogwood Drive, Salisbury



African American Biographies Donated

Thanks to a generous donation from Oscar and Carol Carlson, patrons visiting the St. Michaels branch can now enjoy a collection of biographies of prominent African Americans edited by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham. This 8-volume print edition of *The African American National Biography*—a joint project of the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University and Oxford University Press—contains more than 4,000 biographies.

One Maryland One Book is a program of the Maryland Center for the Book at the Maryland Humanities Council. It is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Library Services and Technology Act grant funds, through the Division of Library Development & Services, Maryland State Department of Education; Bank of America Foundation; Verizon; Constellation Energy; and Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts. One Maryland One Book is coordinated by the Maryland Center for the Book, a program of the Maryland Humanities Council, in partnership with Enoch Pratt Free Library and Barnes & Noble. For more information, visit the Maryland Humanities Council's website at www.mdhc.org/programs/one-maryland-one-book/

Children's Programs

(Please pre-register for all unticketed programs)

Easton

OFF WE GO STORYTIME

Tuesday, September 1, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. for children 2 and under, with an adult; 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. for 2 - 5 year olds with an adult.

AFTERSCHOOL CRAFTS

Wednesday, September 16; Tuesday, October 27; and Tuesday, December 8, from 3:00 – 4:45 p.m. Come when it is convenient to your school schedule. For all ages—children 8 and under should be accompanied by an adult.

WEEKEND CRAFTS

Saturdays, September 19, October 10 and 31, and November 21. Drop in to our children's section between 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. for a variety of family crafts.

THE MAGIC OF ORIGAMI

Tuesday, September 22, 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. For ages 8 and older.

FIRST STEP STORYTIME

Tuesdays, September 22 - October 31, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. for children 2 and under with an adult; 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. for 2 - 3 year olds with an adult.

SCALE TALES WITH PICKERING CREEK (No pre-registration or tickets required.)

Thursdays, September 24, October 22, November 19, and December 17, 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Live reptiles in the library lobby!

READ TO THERAPY DOGS

Tuesdays, September 29, October 20, and November 17, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Bring your own book or choose a library book to read to dogs from Pets on Wheels and Therapy Dogs International.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Wednesdays, October 7 - November 18, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. For 3 - 5 year olds, no adult required in the program.

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR EVENT

Thursday, October 8, 4:00 p.m. Join us for a variety of activities to support Jumpstart's worldwide reading of this Eric Carle favorite.

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT WITH PICKERING CREEK

Wednesday, October 14, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Learn about bats, skunks, and opossums and their nighttime jaunts.

ANIMALS IN THE WINTER WITH PICKERING CREEK

Monday, November 9, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Discover the ways animals survive the winter.

MIME MARK JASTER PRESENTS "PICCOLO'S TRUNK"

Friday, November 27, 10:30 a.m. A comic program in pantomime for the whole family.

Free tickets required to attend. Tickets available beginning November 20. Supported by the Friends of the Talbot County Free Library.

St. Michaels

TOT TIME

Mondays, September 14 through November 9, 10:15 a.m. For children 5 years old and under accompanied by an adult.

FAMILY FALL CRAFTS

Wednesdays, September 16, October 21, and November 18, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Craft projects for the whole family to enjoy.

GAME DAYS

Mondays, September 28, October 26, and November 30, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Ages 10 and up. Enjoy video games, board games, and other activities.

AFTERSCHOOL CRAFTS

Tuesdays, September 29, October 27, and November 24, at 3:30 p.m. Children 8 and up.

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR EVENT

Thursday, October 8, 11:00 a.m. Join us for a variety of activities to support Jumpstart's worldwide reading of this Eric Carle favorite.

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT WITH PICKERING CREEK

Wednesday, October 28, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Learn about bats, skunks, and opossums and their nighttime jaunts.

MIME MARK JASTER PRESENTS "PICCOLO'S TRUNK"

Friday, November 27, 2:00 p.m. A comic program in pantomime for the whole family.

Free tickets required. Tickets available beginning November 20. Supported by the Friends of the Talbot County Free Library.

Original art by Robert Horvath

Adult Programs

All library programs are free and open to the public.

Easton

OLD-FASHIONED GAME NIGHT

September 10 and 28, October 8 and 19, November 12 and 23, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Games and puzzles will be set up in the library lobby for everyone to enjoy.

PIRATES, THIEVES, AND SCALAWAGS: FIGHTING MODERN-DAY PIRATES

Thursday, September 17, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Based on his own experiences with pirates in the Malacca Straits, Captain Scott Conway discusses some of the dubious characters one can encounter in today's Merchant Marine and how we can protect our ships' cargoes from modern-day pirates.

STITCHING HOUR

Mondays, September 21, October 19, and November 16, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Join us to work on projects already in progress or consider starting a new one (knitting, crocheting, cross-stitch, and others). Newcomers and beginners welcome; limited instruction available.

AUTHOR LABALA DISCUSSES *THROUGH AFRICAN EYES*

Thursday, September 24, 6:00 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Jefferson S. Labala discusses his book about Biblical parallels to be found in African religion and culture.

THE BAY FROM ABOVE: 75 YEARS OF CHANGE

Thursday, October 15, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Aerial Photographer Hunter H. Harris presents dramatic photographs chronicling changes in the local landscape over the past 75 years. A portion of these photographs are on display as part of a special exhibit at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels through September.

REMEMBERING WHEN: RE-LIVING YOUR CHILDHOOD THROUGH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Thursday, October 29, 6:00 p.m. An expert on children's literature from the Enoch Pratt Library talks about the oldies but goodies. From 15th century woodcuts to Dr. Seuss, revisit the stories and pictures that animated your childhood dreams.

AUTHOR KATE BLACKWELL ON WRITING AND PUBLISHING SHORT STORIES

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Financially, the prospects for story writers have probably never been dimmer. At the same time, there seem to be more excellent stories being written today than ever before. Blackwell, author of the critically-acclaimed short story collection *You Won't Remember This*, will discuss her experience writing stories over the past twenty years, in the context of today's volatile publishing scene.

St. Michaels

STITCH & CHAT

Thursdays, September 3, October 1, and November 5, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Bring your projects and stitch with a group.

ST. MICHAELS BOOK CLUB

Thursday, September 10, 6:00 p.m.

We are starting a book club for adults at the St. Michaels library. Please join us for our kick-off meeting.

PIRATES, THIEVES, AND SCALAWAGS: FIGHTING MODERN-DAY PIRATES

Thursday, September 17, Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Based on his own experiences with pirates in the Malacca Straits, Captain Scott Conway discusses some of the dubious characters one can encounter in today's Merchant Marine and how we can protect our ships' cargoes from modern-day pirates.

MONDAY MOVIE MYSTERIES

Mondays, September 21, October 12, and November 9, at noon. Bring your lunch or a snack and enjoy one of the great movie mysteries.

USING GOOGLE EARTH CLASS

Wednesdays, September 23 – October 28, 10:30 a.m. – noon. Google Earth is a free computer program that can be used to explore the earth, ocean, sky, Mars, and the moon. Requirements: Students of all ages are welcome and must bring a Windows or Mac laptop computer with WiFi capability. Two students may share one computer. Maximum of 15 laptops, so please register early.

STROKE SUPPORT

Wednesdays, September 23 and October 28, at 2:00 p.m.

BASIC COMPUTER CLASS

Wednesdays, October 7 and 14; and October 28 and November 4, 10:00 a.m. to noon. A two-session class for basic computer use. Class size limited, so please register early.

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Friends of the Talbot County Free Library

From the President of the Friends

The Friends support the library and provide additional funds for library programs and equipment purchases. This past year our wine and cheese holiday book sale was a big hit. We held the 19th annual poetry contest, offered monthly lectures, sold desk calendars, and added many new memberships.

As the library undergoes expansion this coming year and a move to temporary quarters, it will need its Friends more than ever. Which means the Friends will need you.

Joining is easy. Just fill out and send in the form below. 100% of your dues go to support the library. And, of course, additional contributions are always welcome.

If you think you might be interested in becoming a board member or helping with one of our events, please contact Carla Howell at 410-820-9159 or eastonspromise@goeaston.net

2010 Book Lover's Page-A-Day Calendar

Back by Popular Demand!

The Friends will be selling a limited number of these calendars offering 365 days of good reading ideas, a delightful gift for only \$10. The calendars will be available in the main library and the St. Michaels branch in November. They make wonderful stocking stuffers and hostess gifts!

Also, we'll be having our grand pre-Holiday book sale again in November. There will be a preview party and sale for Friends of the Library members only. Watch for details.

Brown Bag Lunch Lectures

(No pre-registration required.)

Easton *(The third Thursday of each month at noon)*

September 17: Author Discusses *The Attack on the Liberty*. James Scott tells the story of a deadly assault by Israel on the U.S. spy ship *Liberty* during the Six-Day War.

October 15: Sherlock Holmes Comes to the Shore. Art Renkwitz, president of a group of Sherlock Holmes aficionados, introduces his audience to the great detective and his connection to the Eastern Shore.

November 19: "The Play's the Thing." Author, editor, and poet, Art Bounds offers an overview of how a play is developed, published, and presented.

St. Michaels *(The first Monday of each month at noon)*

October 4: The Great Northern Land.

Cathy Cooper shares tales and photographs from her extensive travels in Alaska.

November 2: A Daughter Remembers Victor Borge. Janet Borge Crowle shares personal anecdotes from the life and career of beloved pianist Victor Borge.

Friends Annual Meeting

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Library will take place on Thursday, October 15, at noon. The brief meeting will include the election of officers. Open positions are President and Corresponding Secretary. The meeting will be followed by the ever-popular Brown Bag program.



BE A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY!

Please enroll me as a member of Friends of the Talbot County Free Library

NAME _____

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DUES

\$10.00 per household \$ _____ extra donation \$ _____ total enclosed \$ _____

Both dues and donations are tax deductible. Make checks payable to: Friends of the Talbot County Free Library. Please send check and completed form to: Friends of the Library, c/o The Talbot County Free Library, 100 West Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601, or you can just give them to the folks behind the desk at the library.

Talbot County Free Library

100 W. Dover Street
Easton, MD 21601

Phone: 410-822-1626

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The Talbot County Free Library Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of the James A. Michener Legacy Society. In thanks for the help he received from the Talbot County Free Library in researching his novel *Chesapeake*, James Michener left the library a generous legacy. As it grows and accrues interest, that gift continues to help our library serve the people of Talbot County. The new Society, named in Michener's honor, allows people interested in making a gift or bequest the opportunity to join the author of *Chesapeake* in supporting the work of our library for years to come. Donors will automatically become members of the Michener Legacy Society, their names placed on a plaque at the entrance to the library.

The Talbot County Free Library Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization dedicated to assuring the financial health of our community library. Your donation is tax deductible. For more information about The James A. Michener Legacy Society, contact the library at 410-822-1626 or visit www.tcfl.org.

The richest person in the world—in fact all the riches in the world—couldn't provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library.

—Malcolm Forbes—



If you are interested in joining the James A. Michener Legacy Society please share the following information with us and we will contact you.

Name _____ Date: _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

I plan to establish a legacy as a:

Will Stock or property Retirement account Insurance Other _____

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