



WEATHERVANE

Winter/Spring 2009



Director's Corner

In these hard times, people turn to the library. If they're looking for work, they can find help here: everything from information on how to write a résumé and interview for a job to how to negotiate pay once a position has been found. (On the back of this newsletter, for instance, you can find an online resource that helps our patrons with education and career advancement.)

With budgets tight, it can be hard to keep your spirits up. At such times the library offers its own special solace. There are movies to watch, books to read, music to listen to, and the world of computers

to explore. But sometimes all a person really wants is a nice quiet place to sit with the day's papers and catch up on the news. All of this (and more) is available at the library. And thanks to the good people of Talbot County, it is shared with all the people of our community absolutely free of charge.

The next time you are feeling the pressures of the day, give yourself a moment to reflect upon the place we live in—its natural beauty, the genuine friendliness of the people, their sense of community, the great library that sense of community has fostered—and I think you'll find, as I do, we still have so very much to be thankful for.

—Robert Horvath—

Tax Forms Available

For your convenience, the library now has both federal and Maryland state tax forms available in the lobby. In addition to these basic forms, other tax forms may be accessed online at www.irs.gov (federal) and www.marylandtaxes.com (state).

Tax assistance is being offered through AARP at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department (telephone: 410-822-1444) and at the St. Michaels Library (410-745-5877) beginning February 1, 2009. Please call to make an appointment.

February is ... Black History Month!

Come to the library to learn more about Black History. Suggested readings for adults would include: Edward Jones's *The Known World*, Martha Hode's *The Sea Captain's Wife*, and Marcus Rediker's *Slave Ship*. Teens might be interested in Elisa Carbone's *Stealing Freedom*, Janet McDonald's *Spellbound*, or Jacqueline Woodson's *If You Come Softly*. Just in: a new, digitally-remastered, widescreen DVD of the great Civil War flick, *Glory*.

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Adult Programs

Easton

Baba Jamal Koram, African Storyteller

Monday, February 9, 6:00 p.m. Blending contemporary and traditional storytelling techniques with drumming and call and response, master storyteller Baba Jamal Koram brings the lore of African and African-American cultures to life.



Book Discussion: *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*

Thursday, February 12, 6:30 p.m. On this date, which marks the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, join in a discussion of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book said to have guided President Obama in his selection of a cabinet.

Sue Ellen Thompson Teaches the "Confessional" Poets

Thursday evenings, March 5, 12, and 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. This lecture/discussion series focuses on the work of contemporary poets who have written honest, accessible poetry about their own lives. Come discuss the great ones with Pulitzer Prize-nominated poet Sue Ellen Thompson (whose programs are always immensely popular with our patrons).

America's Greatest Detective — America's Greatest Crime

Thursday, March 26, 6:00 p.m. John Reisinger, author of *Master Detective*, tells the story of the Lindbergh kidnapping and the confession no one believed.

Local Romance Author Tells All!

Thursday, April 23, 6:00 p.m. Author Susan Marmo discusses her recently released romance novel *For the Rest of My Life*. Books available for purchase and signing.

Stitching Hour

Mondays, January 26 and February 23, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., and March 16, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Bring projects in progress (sewing, knitting, cross-stitch, what-have-you). Limited instruction available for beginners and newcomers.

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

(The third Thursday of every month at noon.)

February 19

Celebrate Black History Month with Sandy Redd, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Service Center, as she discusses her work-in-progress, the autobiographical *Growing Up in Talbot County: My Family, Faith and Friends*.

March 19

Certified Genealogist Kearby Parker shares the latest genealogy sources. Discover new tools that will help you learn more about your ancestors and the times in which they lived.

April 16

Poet John Elsberg, editor and publisher of the poetry review BOGG, and editor of *Delaware Poetry Review*, helps us celebrate Poetry Month.

St. Michaels

Learn Basic Stitches to Knit or Crochet

Tuesday, April 14, 3:30 p.m. Open to beginners of all ages. Learn basic stitches to be able to knit or crochet. Materials provided. (Pre-registration required.)

Stitch & Chat

Thursdays, February 5, March 5, and April 2, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Bring your projects and stitch with a group.

Stroke Support Group

Wednesdays, February 25, March 25, and April 22 at 2 p.m.

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

(The first Monday of every month at noon.)

February 2

Celebrate Black History Month with Laura Austin, who will talk about her family's life in Bellevue, Maryland, and its connections to African-American businesses in the area.

March 2

Cathy Cooper, who has been making regular trips to Alaska for more than twenty years, shares stories and pictures from the far north.

April 6

Jacques Baker discusses the life and work of Chesapeake Bay author Gilbert Byron.

Children's Programs

(Please pre-register for all programs)

Easton

SAMANTHA'S "WINTER PARTY"

Saturday, January 31, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

You are invited to a gathering featuring crafts, activities, and treats. Ages 7 and up.

FIRST STEP STORYTIME

Tuesdays, February 3 and 10, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m., for children under 2 with an adult; 10:45 - 11:30 a.m., for 2 and 3 year olds with an adult. Stories, activities, and crafts.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Wednesdays, February 4 - 25, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., for 3 - 5 year olds. No adult required in program. Stories, activities, and crafts.

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS

Tuesday, February 10, and the Mondays of March 9 and April 6, 3:00 - 4:45 p.m. For all ages. Children 8 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Come when it is convenient to your school schedule.

ADDY'S "VALENTINE PARTY"

Saturday, February 14, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with crafts, activities, and treats! Ages 7 and up.

LIVE CREATURES FROM PICKERING CREEK !

Thursdays, February 26, March 26, and April 23, 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Meet and (if you wish) touch the animals brought in and described by naturalists from the Pickering Creek Audubon Center.

TRACKS AND TRACES WITH PICKERING CREEK

Wednesday, March 18, 4:00 p.m., for ages 4 - 12. Learn to identify animal furs and skulls with the help of a naturalist from the Pickering Creek Audubon Center.

BIRDING BONANZA WITH PICKERING CREEK

Wednesday, April 22, 4:00 p.m., for ages 4 - 12. Naturalists from the Pickering Creek Audubon Center will teach young would-be ornithologists how to use binoculars to identify birds. Binoculars will be provided by Pickering Creek.

Original art by Robert Horvath

St. Michaels

TOT TIME

Mondays, February 2 - March 2, and March 30 - May 4, 10:15 a.m., for children 5 years old and under accompanied by an adult.

FAMILY CRAFTS

Thursdays, February 12, March 12, and April 16, 3:30 p.m. Seasonal crafts for all ages.

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS

Tuesdays, February 24, March 31, and April 28, 3:30 p.m., for children 8 and older.

GAME DAY AT THE LIBRARY

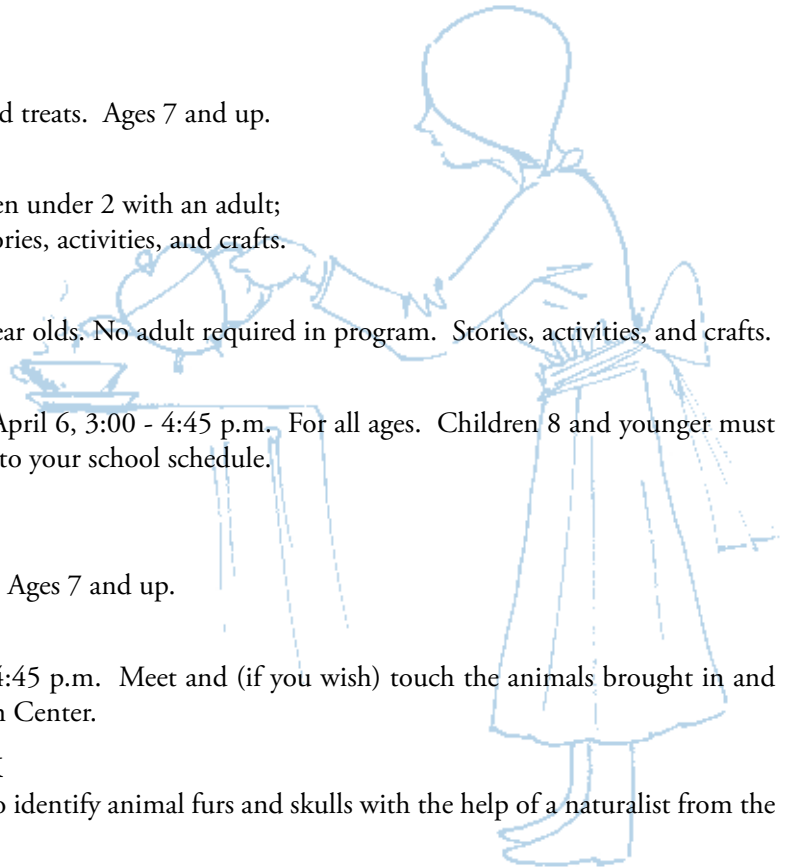
Mondays, February 23 and March 23, 3:30 p.m. Ages 12 and older.

Come and enjoy game systems and board games.

LEARN BASIC STITCHES TO KNIT OR CROCHET

Tuesday, April 14, 3:30 p.m. Open to beginners of all ages.

Learn basic stitches in knitting and crochet. Materials provided.



Saturday Matinee: Classic Film Fest at the Library

(If you've never seen these movies on a big screen...
you've *never seen* these movies!)



January 31, 2:00 p.m. *Frankenstein* (PG)

The image we all carry around in our head of what the Frankenstein monster looks like was first created in this 1931 production starring Boris Karloff. It is the definitive horror film.

February 14, 2:00 p.m. *Some Like It Hot* (PG-13)

Nominated for seven Academy Awards, the Motion Picture Guide called this star-powered movie (Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis, George Raft, and Pat O'Brien) "one of the greatest of all film comedies."

February 28, 2:00 p.m. *The Man From Snowy River* (PG)

This family-friendly Western, set in late nineteenth century Australia, features gorgeous cinematography, amazing horses, and Kirk Douglas playing two different roles. It is based upon the Australian epic poem of the same title.

March 14, 1:00 p.m. *Dr. Zhivago* (PG-13)

David Lean's *Dr. Zhivago* tells the visually stunning story of a great romance lost and renewed during the Russian revolution. This is the film that caused a generation of boys to lose their hearts to Julie Christie, even as their girlfriends were swooning over the title character, a young handsome doctor who likes to write love poetry in his spare time.



March 28, 2:00 p.m. *The Philadelphia Story*

This classic romantic comedy-farce earned six major Academy Award nominations and remains, some 70 years later, one of those rare chick flicks guys actually love. Lots of fun, lots of laughs, and a soupçon of wisdom.

April 11 2:00 p.m. Double Feature!

Best in Show (PG-13) &

The Standard of Perfection: Show Cats

You watched the Westminster Dog Show earlier this month, now join us for *Best In Show*, Christopher Guest's wickedly funny mock-umentary about dog show culture. And, in our never-ending quest to give cat-lovers equal time, we'll also show the documentary, *The Standard of Perfection: Show Cats*.

April 25, 1:00 p.m. *Lawrence of Arabia* (G)

Based on T. E. Lawrence's memoir of his World War I experiences—a book that predicted nearly all that would subsequently go wrong in the Middle East—David Lean's epic film is widely considered one of the greatest movies of all time. We're showing the fully restored director's cut.

Visit the Library Online at www.tcfl.org

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Friends of the Talbot County Free Library

19th Annual Poetry Contest

A poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom.

—Robert Frost—

Pursue both delight and wisdom! Send your poetry in to compete for cash prizes.

Poem Categories are General and Historical.

Contestants may enter one or two poems in each category. Entrants are encouraged to use the Chesapeake area as a topic.

General Poem Category:

Poems may be on any topic. Entries will be judged in the following divisions:

1. Students in grades three through five
2. Students in grades six through eight
3. Students in grades nine through twelve
4. Adults

Historical Poem Category:

Poems should be about a historical person, event, or time period. Entries will be judged in the following divisions:

1. Persons less than 16 years old.
2. Persons 16 years or older.

Prizes:

Within each age group in the General Poem Category, three winners will be named (each receiving a certificate and \$75) and two honorable mentions (each receiving a certificate).

Each of the two age groups in the History Poem Category will have a winner; these two winners will each receive a certificate and \$75.

Deadline for Entries: March 7, 2009

For entry requirements, stop by any branch of the library or visit www.tcfl.org.

The Holiday Book Sale was a great success.

More than 500 people bought gently used books and CDs, raising over a thousand dollars to purchase unbudgeted items, such as software and audio-visual equipment.

Our membership campaign was equally successful, which means a dose of much needed funds to help purchase additional items for the library. But we can always use more friends! Please join now to help fund programs for teens and adults.

Visit the Library Online at www.tcfl.org



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

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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

Fax: 410-820-8217

www.tcfl.org

askus@tcfl.org

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Free Test Prep @ Your Library

Testing & Education Reference Center

This online resource provides students (high school, college, and adult) with the information they need to make informed decisions about their future.

Special Features Include:

- Profiles on Private High Schools, Colleges and Universities, Graduate and Specialty Schools
- Information on Scholarships/Financial Aid
- Interactive Online Practice Tests for a Variety of Examinations
- Online Study Guides available 24/7

To access this resource, visit Talbot County Free Library's website: <http://www.tcfl.org>.

- Click on "Do Research" found on the left side of the homepage
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- Click on "Testing & Education Reference Center"
- When prompted, enter your library barcode number

For additional assistance,
please contact a library staff member.

E-mail: askus@tcfl.org

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