“You must live feverishly in a library. Colleges are not going to do any good unless you are raised and live in a library every day of your life.”

— Ray Bradbury —
From the Director’s Desk

The start of a new year is always an exciting time, and we have plenty of programs, activities and resources to help you weather the coming cold.

Of course this is the time of year that people start to think about renewal and change in their lives. The library has the resources, services, and programs—and the trained staff—to help you carry out those New Year’s resolutions. And the library, too, is focused on renewal and transformation, having learned from the community during the strategic planning process how we could best meet the evolving needs of our patrons. The new five year strategic plan, “Discovering Opportunity, Expanding Horizons,” reflecting the wonderful community input we received, will guide our planning and provision of services through the year 2022. Over the ensuing five years, the library will focus its efforts on the following three areas: lifelong learning, community engagement, and creating welcoming facilities. Our strategic directions will be as follows:

1. The library provides services, opportunities, and resources for lifelong learning, enrichment, and the building of skills, allowing individuals to grow and thrive personally and professionally.
2. The library is an active presence in our community, creating versatile, accessible, and welcoming spaces that support discovery, provide enjoyment, and enrich lives.
3. The library maintains an outward focus to ensure purposeful community engagement, partnership development, and a community-wide awareness of library services, programs, and resources.

Even as it remains a safe and familiar refuge, the library continues to grow and change with the times. It is, and always will be, a place for you to discover opportunity, explore digital worlds, and improve your life and the lives of those around you. The library is a community, cultural, and technology hub, with staff and services dedicated to strengthening our community and inspiring, educating, and entertaining our patrons. We value your trust, and—as we have in our Strategic Plan—we will continue to ask for your help and advice, so that, together, we might create a library worthy of the people we serve.

We look forward to your continued feedback as we move into the New Year. I hope to see all of you at the Friends of the Library’s Among Friends event “Charades with a Twist: Acting Out at the Library” on January 26th!

Dana Newman
Firstly...
**St. Michaels**

**Maker Space**
Wednesdays, December 6, January 3, & February 7, 3:30 p.m. Enjoy STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) building with Legos, Zoobs, and more! For children 6 and older.

**Story Time**
Wednesdays, December 13, January 24, February 14 & 28, 10:30 a.m. For children 5 and under accompanied by an adult.

**Minecraft**
Wednesdays, December 13, January 10 & 24, February 14 & 28, 3:30 p.m. Explore Minecraft on the library’s computers. For ages 5 and older.

**Family Unplugged Games**
Thursdays, December 14, January 11, & February 8, 3:30 p.m. Bring the whole family to the library for an afternoon of board games and fun educational children’s games. For all ages (children 5 and under need to be accompanied by an adult).

**Family Crafts**
Thursday, December 21, 3:30 p.m. Make a Yarn Scarf
Thursday, January 25, 3:30 p.m. Make Marbleized Paper (please wear old clothes)
Thursday February 15, 3:30 p.m. Book Arts: Fold & Cut Book from a Maryland Map

**STEM Story Time at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum**
Wednesday, January 10, 10:30 a.m. Enjoy STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) story time, and learn about animals in winter at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. Pre-registration is required for free admission to the museum. Please call the St Michaels Library at 410-745-5877 to pre-register for this event. For ages 5 and under accompanied by an adult.

**Teen & Adult Programs**

**Easton**

**Stitching Time**
Mondays, December 11, January 8, and February 12, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Patrons are invited to work on their favorite project with a group. Limited instruction will be available for beginners. Newcomers welcome.

**Please Help Us Plan Our 2018 Agenda—the Easton Book Group**
Monday, December 18, 6:30 p.m. The Easton book group invites patrons to join them for some holiday treats and help them set their course for 2018. This group, like all library programs, is open to all.

**Teen Game Board Night**
Thursdays, December 21, January 25 and February 22, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Join us as we play real, live, face-to-face board games! Bring your own or use the library’s: *Catan, Ticket to Ride, Chess*, and more! For grades 6-12. Light refreshments.
Easton Teen & Adult Programs (continued)

Grow & Eat Sprouts and Microgreens
Saturday, January 6, 11:00 a.m. Just because it's winter doesn't mean you can't grow fresh, healthy food. Gregory Rohman shows you how to grow microgreens and sprouts for sandwiches and salads.

Easton Book Group Discussion: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles
Monday, January 22, 6:30 p.m.

Garden Design Inspired by World Travel
Tuesday, January 23, 1:30 p.m. Karl Gercens helps you design a world-class garden. Sponsored by the Talbot County Garden Club

Charades with a Twist: *Acting Out at the Library*
Friday, January 26, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. The Friends of the Talbot County Free Library invite you to join them for a fun filled evening of wonderful food, delectable drink, lively entertainment, and scintillating conversation. (See front page for details.)

Book Discussion: *The God of Small Things*
Monday, January 29, 6:30 p.m. Bill Peak hosts a discussion of Arundhati Roy’s Man Booker Prize Winner, *The God of Small Things.*

Afternoon Chess Club
Tuesdays, February 6 – March 27, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Learn and play chess. For ages 6 – 16. Snacks served. To guarantee your spot, please register by contacting Laura Powell at lpowell@tcfl.org or 410-822-1626.

Lunch & Learn: Frederick Douglass’s 200th Birthday
Thursday, February 15, noon. Come learn about Talbot County’s most famous native son and the activities planned throughout the state to celebrate his bicentennial. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Bring your lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

The Women in Frederick Douglass’s Life
Thursday, February 15, 6:00 p.m. Panel discussion of the women who supported Frederick Douglass throughout his long life and helped him to achieve all that he did.

An Afternoon of Films about People Who Inspired Change
Monday, February 26, noon - 7:00 p.m. Films will include *Alice’s Ordinary People,* a documentary look at an unsung heroine of the Civil Rights Movement.

Easton Book Group Discussion: *Swing Time* by Zadie Smith
Monday, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Bay Wise Gardening
Tuesday, February 27, 1:30 p.m. Mikaela Boley will show you how to create a garden that pleases both you and the Bay! Sponsored by the Talbot County Garden Club.
St. Michaels Teen & Adult Programs

Coloring for Teens & Adults
Mondays, December 4, January 22, & February 5, 3:30 p.m. Explore the relaxing process of coloring!

Arts & Crafts
Thursdays, December 7, January 4 and February 1, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Free instruction for knitting, beading, needlework and tatting. Bring your coloring books, Zentangle pens or anything else that fuels your passion for being creative. You may also bring a lunch.

Annual Book Sale
Saturday, December 9, 9:00 a.m. till we sell out. St. Michaels annual (huge) book sale.

Bay Hundred Chess
Wednesdays, December 13 & 27, January 10 & 24, and February 14 & 28, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Learn and play the strategic game of chess. Beginners welcome. For all ages.

Memoir Writers
Thursdays, December 14 & 28, January 11 & 25, and February 8 & 22, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Record and share your memories of life and family with a group of friendly, like-minded people. Participants are invited to bring their lunch.

Frederick Douglass: His World—1818-1895

Book Discussion: The God of Small Things
Thursday, February 1, 2:30 p.m. Bill Peak hosts a discussion of Arundhati Roy’s Man Booker Prize Winner, The God of Small Things.

Lunch and Learn: “500 Years of African-American History”
Monday, February 5, noon. Using the magic carpet of original newspapers dating from the 17th through the 21st centuries, Dr. Stephen Goldman transports you through 500 Years of African-American history. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Bring your lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

Putting Them on the Map:
Tracing African American Book History through GIS Technology
Saturday, February 17, 2:00 p.m. Dr. Alisha Knight, Associate Professor of English and American Studies at Washington College, will speak about her work exploring the connection between African American book publishing and geographic technologies.

Note: The Library may photograph or film patrons for Library promotional purposes. Please notify Library staff if you do not want yourself or your child to be photographed. Thank you.
2018 Marks the 200th Anniversary of Frederick Douglass’s Birth
Events Taking Place in January & February:

[Unless otherwise noted, all programs listed below are free admission.]


February 3, 11:30—1:00 p.m. Chesapeake College, Caroline Center, Wye Mills Campus
The college celebrates the 200th birthday of Frederick Douglass; featuring guest speaker Simeaka Melton, Queen Anne’s County native and founder of Dear Girls Academy. Tickets: $20/adults, $10/students.

February 5, noon, Talbot County Free Library, St. Michaels branch, 106 Fremont St., St. Michaels
Brown Bag Lunch: Using the magic carpet of original newspapers dating from the 17th through the 21st centuries, Dr. Stephen Goldman transports you through 500 Years of African-American history. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Bring your lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

February 7, 5:30 p.m., Oxford Community Center, 200 Oxford Rd., Oxford
Panel Discussion: The black history of Talbot County. This panel of longtime Talbot County residents will talk about education, employment, and the role of the Black Church in Talbot County. Sponsored by the John Wesley Preservation Society and Museum.

February 10, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., Milestones, 9630 Technology Drive, Easton

February 10, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Union Baptist Church, 223 Glenwood Ave., Easton

February 12, 6:00 p.m. Academy Art Museum, 106 South Street, Easton
Admission: $15 Members, $12 Non-Members
Having spent nearly half a century on the stage, actor and storyteller Bill Grimmette sets out to “revitalize the argument for the Constitution” … in honor of the 200th anniversary of Frederick Douglass’s birth. Grimmette’s most recent performances have included the role of King Lear at the Atlas Performing Arts Center in Washington, D.C., and as W.E. B. Du Bois for this year’s Chautauqua, sponsored by Maryland Humanities. An old hand at playing Douglass, he has portrayed the great orator at Chautauqua presentations in Maryland and Colorado and other venues for 20 years now.

February 14, Noon, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 N. Washington St., Easton
Wreath-laying. Since his owners never bothered to tell him the actual date of his birth, Frederick Douglass chose to celebrate it every year on February 14. Valentine’s Day, 2018, marks the 200th anniversary of that most illustrious birth. Join us as we lay a wreath at the foot of the statue that honors Talbot County’s most famous native son. Lyndra Marshall will speak.

February 14, 2:30 p.m., 13213 Lewistown Road, Queen Anne

See next page for more ...
Events Taking Place in January & February
in celebration of
Frederick Douglass’s 200th (continued):

[Unless otherwise noted, all programs listed below are free admission.]

February 15, Noon, Talbot County Free Library, Easton branch, 100 W. Dover St., Easton
Brown Bag Lunch: Come learn about the life of Frederick Douglass and the ways in which his legacy will be
celebrated throughout the state during his bicentennial. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Bring your
lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

February 15, 6:00 p.m., Talbot County Free Library, Easton branch, 100 W. Dover St., Easton
The Women in His Life. Several speakers share their knowledge of the women who supported and assisted
Frederick Douglass throughout his long and effective life.

February 17, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Academy Art Museum, 106 South St., Easton
Family Art Day @ AAM. Come celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Eastern Shore’s civil rights icon by
creating a fine art print that features one of his famous quotes, such as “It is easier to build strong children
than to repair broken men.” or “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.” (Though there is no charge for
this program, it is recommended that participants register in advance by calling the museum at 410-822-2787.)

February 17, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, 213 N. Talbot St., St. Michaels
Team Steam/Digging into Our Past. For ages 7 – 9.

February 17, 2:00 p.m., Talbot County Free Library, St. Michaels branch, 106 Fremont, St. Michaels
Dr. Alisha Knight, Associate Professor of English and American Studies at Washington College, will speak
about her work exploring the connection between African-American book publishing and geographic
technologies.

February 17, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Union Baptist Church, 223 Glenwood Ave., Easton
A performance by Frederick Douglass re-enactor Fred Morsel.

February 23, 3:30 p.m., Washington College, Decker Theatre, Gibson Center for the Arts, Chestertown
Honorary degree to be conferred posthumously upon Frederick Douglass. Yale historian and Douglass
biographer David Blight, along with Kenneth B. Morris, Jr., co-founder and president of Frederick Douglass
Family Initiatives, will be in attendance.

February 26, Noon – 7:00 p.m., Talbot County Free Library, Easton, 100 W. Dover St., Easton
The Easton branch of the Talbot County Free Library presents an afternoon of films about people who shaped
and inspired social change. The day concludes with a screening (at 6:00 p.m.) of Alice’s Ordinary People, a
documentary about Alice Tregay, an unsung hero of the Civil Rights Movement.

Watch for our Spring issue of Weathervane
to learn about events planned for
March, April, & May
in celebration of
the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial