

Howard County Library System

source

JUL/AUG 2023

Trail Dogs & Firefighters with Bob Roller

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

More authors

Summer Reading

Disability Pride

Project Literacy

Kindergarten, Here We Come

Moving Up to Middle School





V28 N4
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hclibrary.org

HOURS

MON - THU 10 am - 9 pm
FRI & SAT 10 am - 6 pm
SUN 1 - 5 pm

Only Central and Miller Branches are open on Sundays, until Sep 10.

HOLIDAYS + CLOSINGS

Independence Day July 4

LOCATIONS + NUMBERS

HOURSplus ONLINE 410.313.7890
PHONE RENEWALS 410.313.7810

CENTRAL BRANCH 410.313.7800
10375 Little Patuxent Parkway
Columbia, MD 21044

EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH 410.313.7700
6600 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045

ELKRIDGE BRANCH 410.313.5077
6540 Washington Boulevard
Elkridge, MD 21075

GLENWOOD BRANCH 410.313.5577
2350 State Route 97
Cooksville, MD 21723

MILLER BRANCH 410.313.1950
9421 Frederick Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

SAVAGE BRANCH 410.313.0760
9525 Durness Lane
Laurel, MD 20723

ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH 410.313.7750
9411 Frederick Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

TTY FOR HEARING IMPAIRED

Central 410.313.7883
East Columbia 410.313.7770
Elkridge 410.313.5090
Glenwood 410.313.5597
Miller 410.313.1957
Savage 410.880.5867

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MISSION/VISION:

We deliver high-quality public education for all ages. A vital component of Howard County's renowned education system, we deliver excellence in education, advancing the economy and enhancing quality of life.

source sponsored in part by Friends & Foundation of HCLS.



Letter from the President and CEO

Have you signed up to participate in Summer Reading Adventures yet? It's not too late! With games for four age groups (0-5, 6-10, 11-18, and adult), there's one to keep you engaged and expand your reading horizons. The adult booklet jumpstarts an entire year of reading challenges, in one nifty, compact journal.

We invite you to include frequent visits to our branches in your summer adventures. Our team has put together a complete lineup of fun classes, book discussions, author events, and more. Summer authors include Bob Roller, who wrote a fascinating memoir about his time as a wildland firefighter and trail dog (p. 3), Jenny Xie and Molly Lynch in a conversation about their new books, and Elizabeth Silver, author of the forthcoming novel *The Majority* (p. 7).

Also in July, we offer community engagement sessions as part of our strategic planning process. We welcome your participation and need to hear from you to ensure this plan reflects our community's interests and aspirations. Register for one or more sessions (p. 3), at each branch and online, on our website.

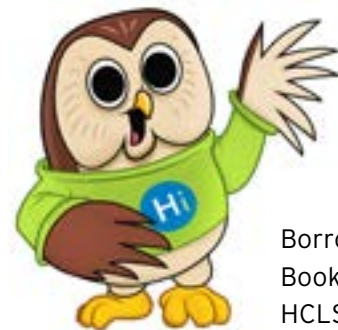
In August, don't miss the H3 Carnival: HiTech, Hands-on, and How-to! This event showcases the wonderful inventions that local teens have been working on during STEAM classes this summer. It also features games, crafts, and a multitude of interesting and interactive activities by staff and the community. The fun takes place at Miller Branch on August 5 (p. 14).

After the carnival, we start preparing to go back to school. If you know someone who is taking a big step into either kindergarten or middle school, we can help ease the transition (p. 15). Kindergarten, Here We Come! teaches students what to expect, including practicing getting on a school bus. Rising middle schoolers can increase confidence by running a backpack relay, seeing how fast they can open a combination lock, and talking about what's in store.

If your adventures take you on the road, remember that our team can help you plan with travel guides and passport services. You can borrow books, audiobooks, and even a flat Booker to keep you entertained during your vacation.

I wish you a safe and happy summer!

Tonya Aikens
President & CEO



Borrow Flat
Booker at any
HCLS location.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Appropriate accommodations made at Howard County Library System (HCLS) sponsored events for individuals with special needs, if requested at least one week in advance.

CONTENT AND ENDORSEMENT:

The content of HCLS publications, classes, and events does not necessarily reflect the views held by HCLS, nor does mention of companies or organizations imply endorsement.

PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE STATEMENT:

Please see hclibrary.org/about-us/photo-video-and-audio-release.

Author Works: Trail Dogs and Firefighters



Trail Dogs and Firefighters: A Memoir from the Burning West is an enthralling story about Robert J. (Bob) Roller's unexpected plunge into the intense world of trail "dogging" and wildland firefighting. The story brings to life the beauty of the American West, the community of interesting people who seek the danger of this lifestyle, and the bonds forged in this environment, that only someone who lived these experiences can describe.

Trail Dogs and Firefighters captures the dangerous early season efforts to clear isolated routes high in the Wyoming mountains, and it climaxes with a series of intense wildfires fought across the intermountain west.

This is the perfect book for anyone interested in the real lives of wildland firefighters or anyone who simply enjoys reading about people who rise to meet impossibly challenging situations by relying on their training, luck, and faith in each other.

Roller has deployed to wildfires, mass migrations, hurricanes, and pandemics. He is a Certified Emergency Manager, a Nationally Registered Paramedic, and a civilian graduate of the US Army's Command and General Staff College. Roller was the vice president of Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, where he has served as a firefighter, paramedic, and special operations swiftwater rescue technician, and he has also served on three mid-Atlantic mountain-rescue teams.

Learn more and register at bit.ly/traildogs_roller

Thu Jul 13 7 - 8 pm Miller

HELP PLAN THE LIBRARY'S FUTURE

Howard County Library System is engaging our community to co-create our next Strategic Plan. We want to hear from you – [your voice matters!](#)

Thu, Jul 6	6 - 7 pm	online*	
Sat, Jul 8	11 am - 12 pm 1 - 2 pm	online* Miller	
Mon, Jul 10	11 am - 12 pm	Glenwood	
Tue, Jul 11	7 - 8 pm	Savage	
Wed, Jul 12	12:30 - 1:30 pm 5 - 6 pm	Central East Columbia	
Thu, Jul 13	5 - 6 pm	Elkridge Branch	

* Online sessions (and survey) available in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, and ASL.



Register for the session that works best for you at hclibrary.org, then:

- Select the classes and events tab
- Arrow over to the July calendar
- Type "Listening Sessions" into the keyword search box
- Click on the session you want to attend

Even if you can't attend, you can take the HCLS Community Survey*, scan the QR Code or visit

www.surveyhero.com/c/hcls



FOLLOW US:



hclibrary.org

Meet Ben Hamilton

Project Literacy Adult Basic Education Assistant

An interview with colleague, Cherise Tasker

Ben Hamilton's demeanor epitomizes the enthusiasm, empathy, and supportive culture of Howard County Library System's Project Literacy, which began educating Howard County adult English language learners, U.S. citizenship seekers, and high school diploma candidates in 1987.

What excites you most about your work at Howard County Library System?

I very much like the direction of our library towards equity and inclusion, and as far as Project Literacy goes, I feel like that's what we're all about. I feel like I'm part of a good thing, part of an organization that's working to improve the world. It's exciting to be part of that.

What changes have you seen during your six years working at Project Literacy?

When I first started, before the pandemic, all of our classes were in person. We had classes offsite at Wilde Lake Middle School, after hours. Our student demographics were a little different as well, when we were doing the in-person classes. Previously, 75 or 80 percent of our students hadn't reached high school in their country of birth. Then we started to see a shift and the level of education go up. Now 50 percent of our students have a high school diploma or some college.

Now we have virtual classes. We have almost 40 classes a semester, four semesters a year, with about 30 virtual and ten in person. We've seen a big bump, post pandemic. This year, we've had around 900 people contacting us looking for classes. Out of those, about half have stayed to be active students. The biggest changes have been the size of the program, and the demographics of the people who are joining the program.

In the last year and a half, we became a provider for the NEDP, National External Diploma Program. Before, you couldn't come to us for your high school diploma; you would go to Howard Community College. Now, we're both providers. Get a high school diploma from the library, free of charge!

This year we have 10 graduates, and at any given time we have 25 people who are meeting with a tutor. Statewide, I think there were 56 graduates last year for the NEDP, so we're representing ourselves pretty well.



What would you like to see happen for Project Literacy as you move forward?

Additional space, which is why the new Lakefront Library would be really nice for us. We have one classroom. This semester, we have two or three nights a week where we have three different classes and so many people that we needed to break up the classes. We kind of remodeled our tutorial space, but it's not an ideal space.

I'd like to see Project Literacy continue to grow. We serve only adults, and there's a lot of need for kids who are still in high school. We work with HCPSS, and they refer students to us. If we could intervene earlier, it would be better.

We've heard from people wanting more of a cultural component. One of our most popular classes is essentially a book club, similar to what library as a whole does, but with the grant constraints. There is also interest in history, social studies, and pop culture, without the need to enroll in a grant-funded education program.

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

I've noticed how relaxed customers seeking assistance become once they enter Project Literacy and interact with staff. How do you achieve that?

Annie helps a lot, at the front desk. If the customer is a Spanish speaker, Annie puts them at ease. Then me, I've worked a lot in customer service. I'm generally a friendly person, and I know a little bit of Spanish, a little bit of Korean. I can say hello, I can say some things to make me sound goofy, and that usually puts people at ease. I think the biggest thing that Emma [Adult Basic Education Manager] has established here is a culture where this is a comfortable place, a safe place. At Project Literacy, we really do think our number one goal is to try to connect with people right away and make them feel comfortable.

The students take hours long classes and seem to always emerge from class energized and enthusiastic. How do you explain the positive morale?

We have probably 25 teachers, give or take, and our teachers are great. Yes, learning in another language can be a very stressful class, but we have really, really good teachers. They make it fun. They connect with the students, understanding that the students have often been working all day long.

How do you measure success?

As a program, our measurables look at how many students have improved their test scores and their standardized English reading test scores. How many students passed the citizenship test, got a high school diploma?

To measure my success, it's 90 percent interpersonal. How many people did I help?

What are some of your favorite aspects of your job?

The people, the students, and the staff. The students who come in, that's probably my favorite part. Some of the students who have come and gone, I'm still in touch with. When I started, I was doing a conversation class with only one student, Peter, and he became a friend. He told me that Korean is easy to learn, and I should just start learning Korean. He kind of talked me into it.

(Interview edited for length and clarity.)

Those 18 or older who want to learn English, obtain citizenship, improve work skills, explore career options, earn a high school diploma, or expand reading and writing proficiency, can review all the free initiatives and classes at Project Literacy here:

hclibrary.org/community-education/project-literacy/

Email prolit@hclibrary.org or call 410.313.7900 for more information.

QUICK QUESTIONS WITH BEN



What was your first job?

My first job was cutting lawns when I was probably too young to use a lawn mower, but I cut the neighbor's lawn and a couple other lawns.

Do you read more than one book at a time?

I do. Currently, I'm reading the first book of the Malazan Book of the Fallen fantasy series by Steven Erikson and working my way through a Talk to Me in Korean textbook. This summer, I'm part of two book clubs. One book club is reading *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo and the other is reading *Middlemarch* by George Eliot. My goal is to do the library's reading challenge. I want to earn that tote.

Explore Ben's posts on the HCLS Chapter Chats blog: chapterchats.org/author/faunsimpudence/

What is your favorite type of cuisine?

That's another one of my favorite parts of working in Project Literacy. Everybody likes to talk about food. Through some of the students, when the pandemic started, I started a virtual cooking show (30 episodes!) called "Cooking with Project Literacy." I started making arepas, then kimchi.

What is something unusual about you?

I have a young daughter who really likes music, so we have a record player in our kitchen. Most nights after dinner, we have a dance party. Usually I have to carry a stuffed animal around while I dance to make the stuffed animal dance. When we have guests over, they also have to dance.



1 2 3 4 5



with MARY BROSENNE,
Branch Manager
HCLS Glenwood Branch + Makerspace

My 5 Things

- 1 **e-Audiobooks**, especially on Hoopla. Since COVID started, I have had a hard time concentrating enough to actually read (a librarian struggling to read – who knew?!?), and e-audiobooks have been my saviors!
- 2 **The Builders Barn** is a fun, free, and creative way for kids to have a "low-tech" makerspace in the children's area at Glenwood Branch.
- 3 The **Glenwood makerspace** (ages 8 and up): We have machines to help you make items you used to pay good money for – Laser Cutter Engraver, anyone? And a free way to transfer your VHS tapes and photos to digital copies with the Digital Memory Station – you just need the time!
- 4 **The Art Collection**: many items to borrow here at the Glenwood Branch and even more at the Central Branch!
- 5 **Passports**: We can accept passport applications for DS-11 forms at both the East Columbia and the Glenwood Branches. Check our website for the hours at each location.

Social Media for Small Business

For adults. Register at bit.ly/hcls_socialbiz

Looking for ways to get your small business more connected online? Join us to learn about the ways that different social media sites can work to support your goals.

Mon Jul 17 7 - 8 pm Savage

World Languages Café

For adults. Register at bit.ly/languagecafehcls

World Languages Café provides a venue where people meet to practice a world language with fellow community members, facilitated by a native or fluent speaker of that language.

Second Thursdays 7 - 8:45 pm Miller
Fourth Tuesdays 7 - 8:45 pm East Columbia

History Relived: 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg

For adults. Register at bit.ly/historyrelived

One of the most important battles of the Civil War, the Battle of Gettysburg occurred over three hot summer days - July 1 to July 3, 1863. Enjoy an informal discussion about the battle and the ramifications that occurred not only during the war, but throughout American history as well.

Tue Jul 11 11 am - 12 pm Glenwood



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

Author Works: Jenny Xie and Molly Lynch

For adults. Register at bit.ly/xie_lynch



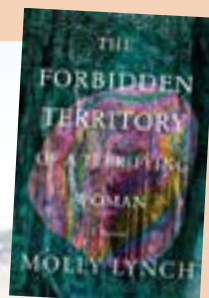
You won't want to miss this engaging and insightful discussion between contemporary literary fiction authors Jenny Xie and Molly Lynch as they explore the complexities of human relationships.

Set against a swiftly evolving Oakland and the tech culture that is changing the ways we interact and relate, Xie's novel *Holding Pattern* offers a nuanced and lightly satirical look at start-ups, influencers, and the boom-and-bust cycles of Silicon Valley enthusiasms.

Fates and Furies meets *Melancholia* in Lynch's *The Forbidden Territory of a Terrifying Woman*, an ominous and absorbing debut novel about marriage and motherhood in a time of ecological collapse, as mothers around the world begin to mysteriously vanish from their homes.

Tue Jul 25 7 - 8 pm online

Xie photo: Cheryl Chan; Lynch photo: Hadji Bakar



Author Works: Elizabeth Silver

For adults. Register at bit.ly/esilver_hcls

Elizabeth Silver discusses her compelling new novel *The Majority*. Illuminating and compassionate, *The Majority* reimagines the life of a fictional first female Supreme Court Justice in the United States: Sylvia Olin Bernstein (or, "SOB"). Unlike some of the other gamechangers of her time, Sylvia is a quiet rule-follower, steadily climbing to the top of her class at Harvard and beyond, until – caught in a dramatic tug of war between career and family, truth and convenience, progress and patience – she is given a chance to change the course of American history and give voice, at last, to an overlooked majority.

Though set against the rich sweep of the 20th century, *The Majority* directly engages with the world right now, bringing to light huge questions at the current center and foreseeable future of American life: What is the role of the Supreme Court? How much power should these nine figures have? How are women treated within the law?

Mon Jul 31
7 - 8 pm online

author photo: Ralph Palumbo



Reading Human Rights

For adults. Register for each session at bit.ly/readinghumanrights

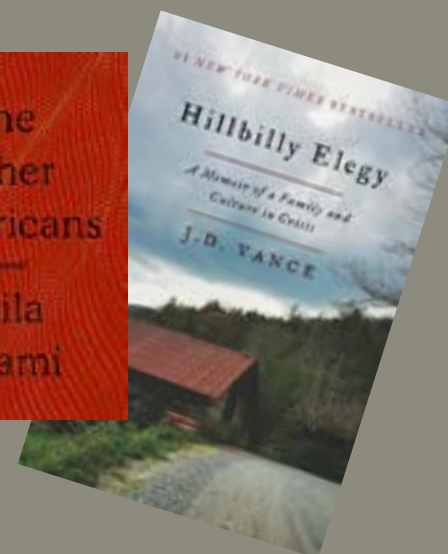
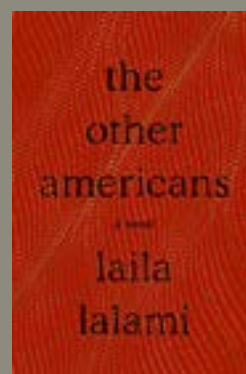
Reading Human Rights is a monthly book discussion hosted by the Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity and Howard County Library System. We read books that promote cultural awareness, diversity, equity.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of A Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

Tue Jul 25 6:30 - 7:30 pm East Columbia

The Other Americans by Laila Lalami

Tue Aug 29 6:30 - 7:30 pm East Columbia



July is Disability Pride Month

by Sahana Callahan, Savage Branch

In 1990, the American Disabilities Act was signed into law, and since then, we've celebrated Disability Pride Month in July. The American Bar Association calls Disability Pride Month a way to ensure we are, "accepting and honoring each person's uniqueness and seeing it as a natural and beautiful part of human diversity."

Disability Pride Month is even more than that – it is a time to reject shame and internalized ableism, to uplift members of the community, and to provide another chance for allies to take into stock what types of work can be done to make spaces truly more accessible. It's also a time to consider how race, class, and gender impact people with disabilities, and what intersectional approaches can be taken to meet those needs.

At HCLS, we take seriously our mission of public education for all – we want to do this inclusion work, both inviting everyone into our physical spaces, and simultaneously making those spaces as easy and accessible as possible. We're constantly working to improve, and, in part, it happens because of suggestions from our community. In case you haven't seen already, we're including a request for ASL interpreters upon registration for our classes, which is a new part of the process. Launched in May, the streamlined process makes it so our Deaf and Hard of Hearing community members don't have to work harder – it is built in.

Whenever classes and library activities are planned, we take accessibility into account. We try to make this community space open to everyone, from how we arrange the room during classes to how we distribute library materials. We have sensory friendly visit bags, which contain noise canceling headphones, a liquid timer, and fidget toys, and can be borrowed for the duration of a visit to the library.

- HiLights ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

- Would you like to receive the latest HCLS news including upcoming classes and events as well as new resources? Subscribe to HiLights and get them in your inbox every Tuesday. Visit: hclibrary.org/about-us/news/enewsletter/



We have an American Sign Language collection at Central Branch, with DVDs of movies in sign, DVDs teaching sign, as well as materials on Deaf history and culture. We have a Pajama Time class at Savage Branch that has ASL instruction. Our collection, which is ever-growing, includes fiction and nonfiction stories about a whole range of identities, experiences, and abilities, so community members can see themselves reflected in the stories they consume.

We collaborate with our partners throughout the state, like the Howard County Autism Society, the Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library, and the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, to name a few. And we're constantly working to improve, because inclusion work cannot be stagnant. The library is a community center, and if there's anything you'd like to see, any suggestions on how the library can better serve you this Disability Pride Month and always, please let us know.



For more about
DEAF CULTURE

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

Fourth of July from Many Points of View

by Brandon Bannister, Central Branch

Happy Independence Day!

As you celebrate, take the opportunity to include the library. The Fourth of July holiday commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Independence, in which the American colonies sought their freedom from England's authority. The Equity Resource Center located at our Central Branch provides access to information on famous people like Ida B. Wells, Malcolm X, and Gandhi. In addition, you can borrow great films: *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, *Schindler's List*, *Philadelphia*, and *Freedom Writers*.

As people traveled to America to embark on their new journey, they came from all races and cultures to find life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Unfortunately, everyone's journey to the United States was not a pleasant experience. In *Frederick Douglass and the Fourth of July* by James A. Colaiaco, he illustrates the extraordinary story of a slave turned distinguished gentleman.

Born in Maryland to a white father and black mother, Frederick Douglass was an abolitionist who taught himself how to read and write, which almost cost him his life during that period. Through self-education and resilience, Douglass became one of the greatest orators and writers in American history. Frederick Douglass was invited to speak to the citizens of Rochester, New York on July 5, 1852 at the Corinthian Hall. In the speech that would be later entitled "What, to the Slave, is the Fourth of July," Douglas explained how it was difficult to celebrate a holiday that symbolizes freedom and independence for Americans, even when many blacks were lynched, beaten, and sold as property. Douglass states in his speech, "What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim." You can read this speech and others in

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave by Frederick Douglass; edited with an introduction by Ira Dworkin, which is available in many formats.

In another great read, *The Politics of Belonging: Race, Public Opinion, and Immigration* by Natalie Masuoka discusses America's long-debated immigration laws. It tackles how families and cultures

can find their place in American society, even through racial barriers and unforeseen obstacles.

As you enjoy your great family barbecues, parades, concerts, and spectacular fireworks shows, consider what look the Fourth of July looks like from many points of view.



FOR MORE ABOUT JULY 4

adult



children &
teen





SUMMER READING ADVENTURES

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURES AS YOU
READ, EXPLORE, AND EXPERIMENT.

GET STARTED

For all ages! There's still time to find the summer reading adventure that's right for you and your family. Separate gameboards available for ages 0 - 5, 6 - 10, teens, and adults.

READ & DO ACTIVITIES

Each time you read or do an activity, you complete a step toward finishing the game. Reading includes print books, e-books, audiobooks, magazines – whatever you like!

Find additional activities, book lists, classes, events, and more at hclibrary.org/summer.

WIN A PRIZE

When you complete your adventures (reading and activities), complete a finisher's form available at any HCLS location or online. Pick up a prize* in person August 1 - 31.

*while supplies last

summer adventures celebrations

Enjoy one or all of these celebrations, which spotlight their communities and encourage summer reading achievements!

Wed	Jul 12	3 - 7 pm	Glenwood
Sat	Jul 15	11 am - 2 pm	Savage
Fri	Aug 4	11 am - 2 pm	East Columbia
Thu	Aug 17	5 - 8 pm	Miller

FREE SUMMER MEALS & SNACKS

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

Ages 18 and under. Drop in.
Mon - Fri, through August

East Columbia Branch

Lunch | 12:30 - 2 pm (through Aug 4)
sponsored and served by HCPSS

Snacks | 3:30 - 4:30 pm

sponsored by Good Harvest, served by HCLS

Central Branch

Snacks | 2 - 3 pm

sponsored by Good Harvest, served by HCLS

Must consume on site.



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

Keeping Busy (not bored) at the Library

by Eliana Holgate, Elkridge Branch

Are you struggling with keeping your child(ren) entertained this summer? No need to sign up for extra camps or fights about too much screen time. Come to the library! We have so much to offer. As always, there are books, toys, and other media to check out and bring home. Have you tried a Literacy Activity Kit yet? What about a STEM Activity Kit? If you're heading on a road trip, take along an audiobook on CD or Playaway, or a Launchpad might keep your little one busy in the backseat.

Of course, the library offers much more than items to borrow. Every branch has a vibrant calendar filled with activities for all ages. Some of our branches have already hosted their summer celebrations, but others are still to come. Each celebration (see p. 10) includes lots of fun and a chance to connect with your community.

We look forward to seeing you at the library all summer!



A year of reading starts this summer!

Ask for a booklet at any HCLS location. Some of the challenges include:

- Take a Road Trip
- Curiosity Challenge
- Read a Book with a Maryland Connection
- Read a Book from the Equity Resource Collection

And of course, classes and events happen all summer long. If you're looking for opportunities for the **whole family** to enjoy together, take a look at some of these options.

Central Family Fun! at Central
Mondays at 2 pm through August 21

Move & Groove at Elkridge
Thursdays at 10:15 & 11:15 am through August 31

Reading Adventures at Glenwood
Wednesdays at 10:30 am through August 16
July 12: Summer Adventure Celebration happening

Library Skills & Tour at Miller
Thursday, July 6 at 6:30 pm

Our youngest community members benefit from an abundance of class offerings. If you have a **child under 5**, here are some of the choices available this summer, in addition to our year-round weekly schedule at each branch.

Little Learners Storybook Friends
at East Columbia
Fridays at 11 am through August 25
August 4: Summer Adventure Celebration happening

Summer of STEAM: Camp Elkridge at Elkridge
Tuesdays at 10:15 & 11:15 am through August 29

Craft Pop-Up Shop Jr. at Miller
Wednesdays at 11:15 am in July

Time for Us at Savage
Tuesdays at 10:15 am through August 22

And of course, we have not forgotten about our **elementary schoolers**. Enrichment abounds for your children while they are out of school! Bring your young scholar to one - or more! - of these fun classes and events

LEGO® Engineering Challenge at Central
Mondays 7/3, 7/17, 8/7 7 pm

Wonder Why? Wednesday at East Columbia
Wednesdays 7/12-8/16 7 pm

Summer of STEAM: Camp Elkridge at Elkridge
Tuesdays at 2 pm through August 22

Summer of Fun! at Savage Branch
Mondays Jul 17 & 24, Aug 21 2 pm

Reading + Adventure = Summer

AN EQUATION FOR FUN

by Jean Boone, Central Branch

Add an extra dimension to your summer days by connecting books from the library to a fun adventure in our region.

Here are some ideas to get you started – each plan includes a picture book for everyone, a chapter book for family read alouds, and an outing within an hour's drive.

Word Play. Meet *Stegothsaurus* (E HE0), the dinosaur with an incredible (inspiring, impressive) vocabulary and encounter an amazing array of words as well as a frightening, formidable, fearsome allosaurus...uh-oh, what's another word for "trouble"?



Enter a magical library where the books aren't just full of words, they're actually alive! In *The Lost Books, The Scroll of Kings* (CHILDRENS PRI, print and audio), Alex must learn how to battle the ancient magic in these books and save himself, the library and the kingdom. It's anything but a quiet day at the library!

Journey to Planet Word, an interactive museum in Washington, DC. You'll find walls alive with words; a library with a secret door and hidden surprises; and rooms to sing, tell jokes and give a speech.

925 13th Street, NW Washington, DC 20005; Admission free, suggested \$15 donation. planetwordmuseum.org

History Mysteries. Time travel with *Calvert the Raven in The Battle of Baltimore* (CHILDRENS FUQ) for a bird's-eye view of the battle that inspired our national anthem in 1814, right here in Baltimore. Fast forward into the present with the thrilling *Capture the Flag* (CHILDRENS MES) in which the original Star Spangled Banner has been stolen from the museum! It's up to Anna, Henry, and Jose to muster all their courage and detective skills to get this historic national treasure back.



Visit the Fort McHenry National Monument, site of the famous battle, where you can explore the historic battlements, cannon and walls, interact with living history guides, or just have a picnic and enjoy the spectacular view of the Baltimore Harbor.

2400 East Fort Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21230; open 7 days a week, kids 15 and under are free. www.nps.gov/fomc

Explorers of the Wild. For an uncharted outdoor adventure, get inspired by Baltimorean Matthew Henson, whose determination led him to be one of the first to find the North Pole. *I, Matthew Henson, Polar Explorer* (CHILDRENS B HENSON W) offers a breath of cold, Arctic air this summer! Or share the adventure of friends Augie and Wyatt, as they build a fort then face the challenges of living in it with ingenuity, perseverance, and humor, in *Fort* (CHILDRENS DEF, print and e-audio).



Head to Cunningham Falls State Park, to hike to a waterfall, swim and canoe in a lake, camp, picnic, and fish.

14039 Catoctin Hollow Road, Thurmont, MD 21788; hours 8 am to sunset, April-October. See website for daily admission fees and campground/ cabin reservations. dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/pages/western/cunningham.aspx

GREAT ESCAPES

fiction



nonfiction



children & teen



Bookmark Contest ends July 31

We want to see what you can imagine! Draw anything that you love and want to share, that uses the given space in interesting ways, and maybe brings a smile to someone's face. There are no required themes.

Entry forms available in branches and online. All children in grades K - 12 who live or attend school (or homeschool) in Howard County may enter in one of five age categories: Kindergarten & Grade 1, Grades 2 & 3, Grades 4 & 5, Grades 6 - 8, and Grades 9 - 12. Winning bookmarks available at all library branches in the fall.



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

Feeling Curious?

by Emily Bell, Central Branch

Have you embarked on your Summer Reading Adventure yet? If not, head to any HCLS branch to begin your Summer Reading Adventure or participate online through ReadSquared! There are Summer Reading games and prizes for all ages. Visit hclibrary.org/summer for all the details on this year's Summer Reading Adventures.

One of the fun challenges for all ages is the **Curiosity Challenge**. To partake in this challenge, simply read a book on any topic you're curious about. No matter your interests, we can help you find a book to satisfy your curiosities!

Here are some books to spark your curiosity:

Science: With a wide range of science-related topics covered in these books, you're sure to learn something new and you might even find additional topics to explore!

The Highlights Book of How: Discover the Science of How the World Works by Libby Romero (CHILDRENS 500R)

Science Superstars: 30 Brilliant Women Who Changed the World by Jennifer Calvert (509.2C)

The Science of Science Fiction by Matthew Brenden Wood (TEEN 500W)

What if? 2: Additional Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions by Randall Munroe (500M)

Entertainment: Learn more about the games, movies, and tv shows you love with behind-the-scenes photos and stories and retrospective analyses.

What is Nintendo? by Gina Shaw (CHILDRENS 338.761S)

Star Wars: The Mandalorian Handbook by Matt Jones (CHILDRENS 791.4572J)

Gamer Girls: 25 Women Who Built the Video Game Industry by Salini Perera (TEEN 794.8092K)

Blood, Sweat, and Pixels: The Triumphant, Turbulent Stories Behind How Video Games Are Made (794.8S)

Best. Movie. Year. Ever.: How 1999 Blew Up the Big Screen by Brian Rafferty (791.4309R)



History: Learn the incredible story of World War II Resistance leader Virginia Hall. A Maryland-native, Hall's work with espionage, reconnaissance, and sabotage were instrumental in the eventual defeat of the Axis powers.

Agent Most Wanted: The Never-Before-Told Story of the Most Dangerous Spy of World War II by Sonia Purnell (CHILDRENS B GUILLOT P)

Code Name Badass: The True Story of Virginia Hall by Heather Demetrios (TEEN 940.5486D)

A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy who Helped Win World War II by Sonia Purnell (940.5486P)

What's the Buzz?: Introduction to Beekeeping

For adults. Register at bit.ly/beekeepinghcls

Dave Dobbs, a Howard County beekeeper since 2015, talks about his experience in beekeeping. He also covers beekeeping basics, products from the hive (such as honey), and ways you can contribute to saving honey bees and other pollinators.

Thu Jul 20 7 - 8 pm Glenwood

H³

HiTech
How-to
Hands-on

carnival

HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Saturday, August 5 | 11 am - 3 pm
Miller Branch

For all ages. Rain or shine.

Play games, learn something new, make crafts, and experience a variety of activities at this free and fun-filled community celebration. Features carnival games by HiTech students, hands-on activities by community organizations, music, and food trucks (\$).



HITECH CLASSES & H3 CARNIVAL

Middle and high school students. Weekly classes through August 4. Sign up to receive email updates at hclibrary.org/new-a-main/hitech

The classes are 90 minutes and run approximately 9 am - 3 pm. Registration begins two weeks prior to the first class.

At the end of the summer, the H3 Carnival features games created by HiTech students and instructors. Our curriculum is made possible by leveraging the best technology, teaching tools, and experts to deliver a top-quality STEAM education experience.

Coding	3D design and printing
Engineering	Physics
Chemistry	Biology
Music tech	Digital art
Math	Ten 80 car racing
Robotics	Financial literacy



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

KINDERGARTEN, HERE WE COME!

Children entering Kindergarten this fall. 45 - 60-minutes.
Register at hclibrary.org > classes and events tab.

Children hear stories and participate in activities to prepare for that important first day school. They also practice boarding a real school bus.

Cosponsored by Friends & Foundation of HCLS and Howard County Public School System

CENTRAL BRANCH

Registration begins Jul 19 for all sessions.

Wed	Jul 26	3 & 6:30 pm
Thu	Jul 27	11 am & 3 pm
Sat	Jul 29	2 pm

EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH

Registration begins Aug 7 for all sessions.

Mon	Aug 14	6:30 pm
Wed	Aug 16	11 am
Fri	Aug 18	3 pm

ELKRIDGE BRANCH

Registration begins Jul 31 for all sessions.

Mon	Aug 7	4 & 7 pm
Tue	Aug 8	11 am & 2 pm
Sat	Aug 12	2 pm
en español: Sab Agosto 5 2 pm		



GLENWOOD BRANCH

Registration begins Jul 15 for all sessions.

Sat	Jul 22	2 pm
Mon	Jul 24	11 am & 2 pm
Tue	Jul 25	7 pm

MILLER BRANCH

Registration begins Jul 15 for all sessions.

Sat	Jul 22	11 am
Tue	Aug 1	11 am & 2 pm
Wed	Aug 2	2 & 6:30 pm
Thu	Aug 3	6:30 pm

SAVAGE BRANCH

Registration begins Aug 7 for all sessions.

Mon	Aug 14	10:15 am
Wed	Aug 16	2 pm
Sat	Aug 19	11:45 am
en español: Mierc Agosto 16 6:30 pm		

Moving Up to Middle School

For rising sixth graders. Registration required for all sessions, bit.ly/HCMovingtoMS

Students starting sixth grade this fall can meet new classmates, discuss the big move, and learn the secrets to success. Compete in a book bag relay and combination lock time trial.

Tue	Aug 8	7 - 8 pm	Glenwood
Sat	Aug 12	3 - 5 pm	Savage
Mon	Aug 14	7 - 8:30 pm	Elkridge
Wed	Aug 16	3 - 4 pm	East Columbia
Sat	Aug 19	3 - 4:30 pm	Miller
Mon	Aug 21	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Central

Meet the Author:
Jas Hammonds
Saturday, July 15
4 - 5 pm
Miller Branch



For ages 14 & up. Registration required, visit bit.ly/HCJasHammonds

Family secrets, a swoon-worthy romance, and a slow-burn mystery collide as this debut novel explores how racial violence can ripple down through generations. Books available for purchase and signing.

Music & Arts

ACROSS ALL AGES

Great Artists!

Ages 6-9 with an adult. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Learn about the works of famous artists and create your own unique interpretation of their art.

Tuesdays Jul 11 - 25
7 - 7:30 pm East Columbia

Getty Museum Series: This Sceptered Isle: British Art from the 13th to the 19th Centuries

For adults. Register at bit.ly/hcls_getty

The Getty collection contains many artists with paintings, drawings and manuscripts that show the history of Britain's artistic movements. We look at the concept of the Grand Tour, which gave rise to fascinating depictions of faraway places and discuss studies of landscapes so important to the British lifestyle.

Wed Jul 12 1 - 2 pm online

Create by Music

For adults. Register at bit.ly/createbysmusic

Join us for an evening of fun crafts and conversation as well as music to stimulate those creative juices!

Wednesdays Jul 12 & Aug 9
6 - 7 pm Miller

Craft Works

For adults. Space is limited; register for each session at

bit.ly/hclscraftworks

Let your creativity shine in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Journal, draw, paint, color, or create the month's featured craft. Bring in any projects you'd like to work on or start something new. Crafting supplies provided.

Rock Painting

Thu Jul 13 2:30 - 4:30 pm
Tue Jul 18 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Central

Jewelry and Magnet Making

Thu Aug 24 2:30 - 4:30 pm
Tue Aug 29 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Central

Art in the Afternoon: Chesapeake Bay Art Workshop

For adults. Space is limited. Register at

bit.ly/artintheafternoon

Create art inspired by the wildlife and scenery of the Chesapeake Bay. Choose from a variety of projects.

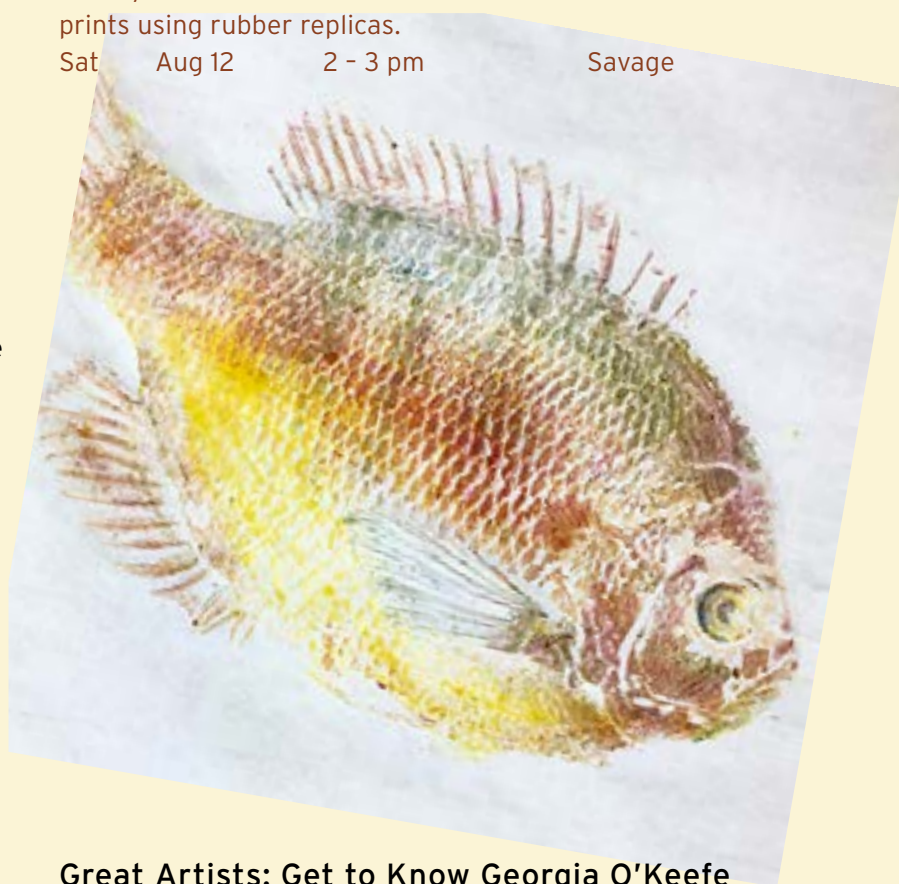
Wed Aug 9 2 - 3:30 pm Elkridge

Gyotaku Fish Printing

Ages 6 - 11 Register at bit.ly/GyotakuFishSAV

Learn about Gyotaku, Japanese fish printing. Explore the history and science of this traditional art and make fish prints using rubber replicas.

Sat Aug 12 2 - 3 pm Savage



Great Artists: Get to Know Georgia O'Keefe

Ages 8-12. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Georgia O' Keefe decided to be an artist at age 10! Express yourself artistically through line, color, and shading. Learn about Georgia's life and see samples of her work and how she imaginatively saw the world.

Mon Aug 14 2 - 3 pm Glenwood

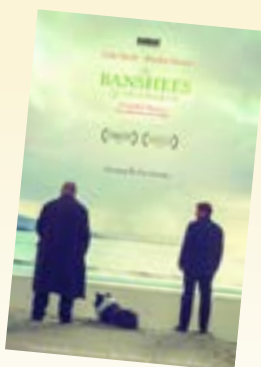
Films with Humans: *Banshees of Inisherin*

For adults. Learn more and register at

bit.ly/filmsforhumans

We watch films about humans, since all great stories involve great characters, then discuss them with our fellow humans.

Thu Aug 31 6 - 8:30 pm Elkridge



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit hclibrary.org > classes & events, and use the filters to narrow your search.

Children's Classes

Adventure on the Patio

All ages. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class. Outdoor classes may be moved inside. Dress for the weather.

Listen to a story, develop observation skills while exploring nature, and participate in an activity you can do at home.

Wednesdays through Aug 2
10:30 - 11 am Central

Hatchlings:

New Baby and Me

Newborn - 6 months with adult. Register at bit.ly/Hatchlings_HCLS

Learn more about supporting your baby's development through fun songs and activities together in this interactive four-week early literacy class series for parents/caregivers with newborns from birth - 6 months.

Tuesdays Jul 11 - Aug 1
10:30 - 11:30 am Elkridge

Magic Show

All ages. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Prepare to be amazed! Rob Niccolini, President of the Columbia Conjurers, performs an hour-long magic show suitable for children of all ages, not to mention adults with an interest in being baffled and mystified!

Thu Jul 27 7 - 8 pm Miller

Cat Party!

Ages 5 - 8. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Calling all cat and animal lovers. Enjoy cat stories and songs plus a chance to make crafts for you and your furry friend. Cat-themed clothing or accessories welcome!

Wed Aug 2 2 - 2:45 pm Glenwood



SCIENCE!

STEAM Stories & Fun!

Ages 5-7 with adult. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Hands-on STEAM fun based on your favorite children's authors! Read books together and have fun doing a STEAM-related activity.

Saturdays Jul 1 - 29
11 - 11:30 am East Columbia

Planet Patrol

Ages 5 - 7. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Calling all Earth protectors: It's Plastic-Free July! Learn how plastic waste is affecting our planet and what you can do to help our environment. Includes stories and interactive activities.

Mondays Jul 3 & 10
11 - 11:45 am Miller

Maryland Wildlife: White-tailed Deer

Families. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Let's learn about one of the most common mammals in Maryland with an interactive wildlife education trunk from Maryland's DNR. The trunk includes stories, a deer hide, a track mold, scat replica, and more.

Tue Jul 25 11:30 am - 12 pm Savage

Modeling Dough Astronomy

Ages 6 - 11. Ticketed. Free tickets available 15 minutes before class.

Most people know that the planets in our Solar System are far away. Do you know how big they are? Discover some fascinating information about our neighboring planets through a fun activity using modeling dough!

Thu Aug 10 2 - 2:45 pm Glenwood



HEALTHY HARVEST

Fall Vegetable Gardening and Putting the Vegetable Garden to Bed

For adults. Register at bit.ly/sav_fallgardening

Extend your gardening season with a late summer and early fall planting of some of your favorite vegetables. Learn how to improve your soil for next season planting. Presented in partnership with Howard County Master Gardeners.

Sat Jul 1 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Savage

Eating Healthy on a Budget

For adults. Register at bit.ly/healthy_hcls

Learn how to stretch your dollars to provide nutritious and delicious meals for you and your family, while staying on budget. Get tips for meal-planning as well as affordable recipes that help you stretch your grocery dollar a little bit further. In partnership with Giant Healthy Living.

Thu Jul 27 7 - 8 pm online

Preserving Your Harvest

For adults. Register at bit.ly/hcls_harvest

Whether you're a gardener or forager, food preservation skills are essential if you want to extend the life of your harvest. Learn about methods such as canning, freezing, and drying, as well as specific recipes.

Wed Aug 2 6:30 - 8 pm online

Baywise Landscaping: Simple Choices for the Home Gardener

For adults. Register at bit.ly/sav_baywise

Landscaping for a cleaner Chesapeake Bay is about making simple everyday choices that support a cleaner and safer environment. Learn how you can create a desirable and sustainable landscape while reducing the pollutants flowing into the Chesapeake Bay. Presented in partnership with Howard County Master Gardeners.

Sat Aug 12 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Savage

For More Summertime Food and Fun

nonfiction



fiction



children & teens



Farmers Market

Shop for locally grown herbs and flowers, fresh produce, meats, and other food and drink. Howard County Economic Development Authority manages Farmers Markets throughout the week, including:

Wednesdays, 2 -6 pm Miller

thank you!



Our sincere thanks to the individuals, organizations, and businesses for their generous financial and in-kind donations to Howard County Library System. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list of those who made contributions between March 1 - April 30, 2023. Please call 410.313.7799 to report any errors or omissions.



\$10,000

Kahlert Foundation

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Educational Systems Federal Credit Union

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Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City

TRIBUTES

In Memory of Aileen McCaffrey:
Charles H. and Carol L. Clark

In Memory of Kathleen S. Glascock:
Robert Owings Glascock

PRESIDENTIAL CIRCLE (\$10,000+)

Dr. Lillian Bauder

Yolanda and Francis Bruno Family Fund

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Kokee Tea in Ellicott City

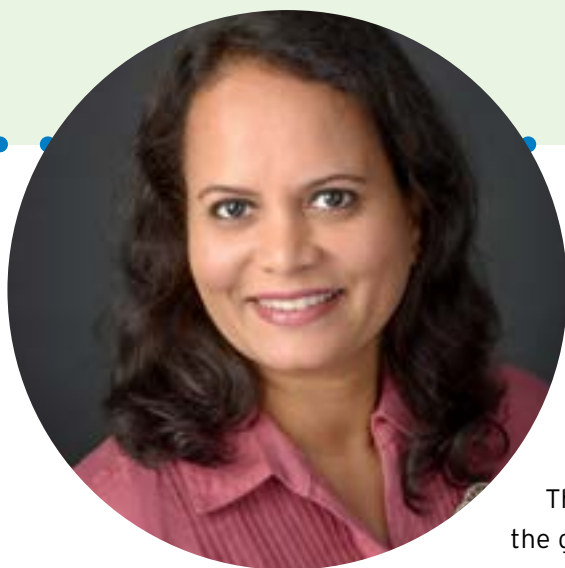
Maryland Science Center

Maryland State Fair

Maryland State Library

Realty 1

Wendy's



FRIENDS MAKE IT HAPPEN!

No planes, no trains, no buses, no worries! We can still travel via books. The best gift my dad ever gave me was the gift of reading. Books have helped me cultivate empathy, immigrate to parts known and unknown, and connect to folks across the globe. Books continue to be my best friend. HCLS is my home away from home, and its programs are transformative for many of our County residents. I enjoy the Battle of the Books and Evening in the Stacks as much as the Summer Reading Challenge. Books can change lives. They did mine!

If you'd like to connect with me via a book, please share what you're reading and connect via GoodReads: www.goodreads.com/user/show/14792408-jay

~ Jay Polacki, Friends & Foundation of HCLS Board Member



HOWARD COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

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