



Discovery

A Bi-monthly Newsletter
Connecting People to the World



Oh, baby: Library to give free books to newborns

► Each baby born in Atlantic County this year is eligible for a free book through the Atlantic City Free Public Library's Books for Babies program.

One of the goals of the Atlantic City Free Public Library is to help area residents develop a lifelong love of reading that begins at birth.

With that hope in mind, the library will launch a Books for Babies program in February 2007. Through this program, each baby born in Atlantic County this year will be eligible to receive a free book from the library. AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center and Shore Memorial Hospital will give a Books for Babies brochure, which con-



tains a certificate for the free book, to each woman who has a baby at their hospitals in 2007. All the parent has to do for the free book is bring the filled-out coupon to the Youth Services Department located on the second floor in the Main Library (1 North Tennessee Avenue) and show us a copy of the child's birth certificate. There is a limit of one book per child.

The library will have books available in English and Spanish.

And, while you are visiting the library, we invite you to apply for a free library card — though the book is yours whether you apply or not.

"We hope to catch babies at the cradle and help them experience the benefits and joys of reading early in life," Library Director Maureen Sherr Frank said. "Reading to a baby is one of the most important things you can do to help your baby's development."

It is never too early for your baby to begin learning. Reading is a great way to introduce your baby to new sounds. Studies have

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Early 1900s paintings in Heston Collection work of A.C. doctor

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is pleased to make available a beautiful collection of botanical paintings for visitors to view in its Alfred M. Heston Collection Room. The watercolor paintings were done from 1907-1910 by Atlantic City physician Dr. Thomas Kemble Reed.

"Dr. Tom" painted flowers and plants that were found in the southern New Jersey area in the early 20th century. Each of the 189 paintings is labeled with the name of the plant or flower, family name, information on the plant's location and other details

about the plant or flower.

Those interested in viewing the paintings may view them in the Heston Room during research hours (Wednesdays from 2-4:30 p.m.; Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-noon and 2-4:30 p.m.) or may make an appointment by calling (609) 345-2269, ext. 3062.

The Alfred M. Heston Collection contains both published and unpublished materials relating to Atlantic City's past and present. The collection includes books, reports, periodicals, photographs, postcards, oral histories, scrapbooks and memorabilia. The col-



The library's Alfred M. Heston Collection features 189 watercolor paintings painted by Dr. Thomas K. Reed between 1907-1910. Pictured here is a labiatae.

lection is named for Alfred M. Heston (1854-1937), a city official, historian and one of the founders of the Atlantic City Free Public Library.

The Library is always interested in adding to and enhancing the collection. Please consider donating Atlantic City materials.



Calvin Earl will perform at 2 p.m. on February 3 as part of the Atlantic City Free Public Library's celebration of Black History Month. A captivating musician and storyteller, Earl spearheaded a campaign to ensure that Congress recognizes African-American spirituals as a national treasure.

Earl performance slated for Black History Month

February marks Black History Month, and the Atlantic City Free Public Library will celebrate it by hosting a performance by Calvin Earl at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3, in the Main Library.

Earl will present "Gifts From My Ancestors," an incredible concert/lecture about the African American spiritual. (See related story on page 3 about Earl's quest to have the African American spiritual recognized as a national treasure).

Gifts From My Ancestors tells the story of how the African people enslaved in America created an original music that enabled them to secretly communicate with each other, teach their young, record their history and heal their pain.

Earl provides insight into the soul of America's first music, which has been hidden in plain view for years. He details how this music had an enormous effect on breaking the

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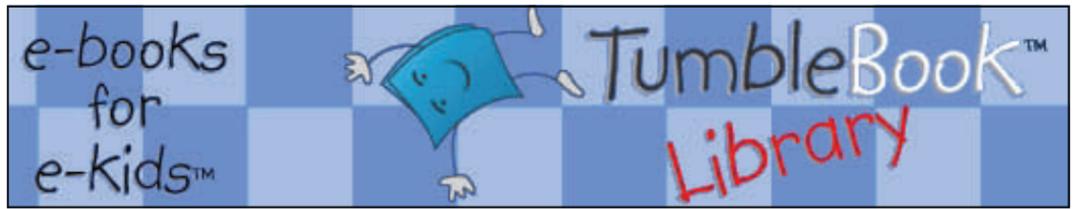
Children's e-books site makes learning fun, e-easy

► The Atlantic City Free Public Library subscribes to TumbleBooks Library, an online service that features animated electronic picture books, puzzles, games and quizzes.

Those who visit the Atlantic City Free Public Library web site, www.acfpl.org, now have access to an exciting electronic resource geared for

children, the TumbleBooks Library.

TumbleBooks are animated, talking books that are presented in a format designed to teach children a love of reading. Animation, sound, music and narration are added to an existing picture book to create an electronic picture book that you can read or have read to you. Some of the 140 book titles available through TumbleBooks in-



clude favorites such as "The Paper Bag Princess," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Old Mother Hubbard" and "Miss Malarkey Doesn't Live in Room 10."

You can complement and broaden the scope of

the themes your child is learning in the classroom. Holidays, celebrations, cultures, pertinent issues, volunteering, aging grandparents, asthma and cultural tolerance are among the topics that these books

cover.

The site, which can be viewed in English, Spanish or French, also features books for young adults, non-fiction and streaming audio books, and puzzles, games and quizzes.



Library boards Hogwarts Express for annual city Christmas Parade

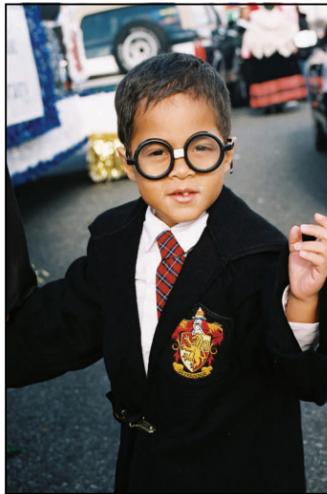
The Atlantic City Free Public Library hit the road to participate in Atlantic City's annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, November 25.

The library float (above) was designed to look like the Hogwarts Express from the Harry Potter novels. Library staff members and some of their family members rode the float, including 3-year-old Isaiah Hymans of Atlantic City

(right), who dressed as Harry Potter.

The 1.5-mile parade route began at Providence and Atlantic avenues and traveled down Atlantic before ending at the Metroplex Park at South Carolina Avenue.

In addition to the themed floats, the parade also included Santa Claus riding in a fire truck, rolling chairs, drill teams and string bands. Santa met



with children and gave them presents at the end of the parade route.

Throw your cake, eat it too this winter at the library

Did you know that you can watch a Civil Rights documentary, learn new make-up ideas ... and throw a fruitcake at the Atlantic City Free Public Library this winter?

Wednesday, January 3
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Fruitcake Tossing Contest

January 3 is celebrated across the United States as National Fruitcake Day. The library will celebrate with a Fruitcake Tossing contest in the second floor meeting room. Bring left-over fruitcake and join in the fun or watch from the sidelines. Fruitcake and cocoa provided.

Friday, January 5
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Feast of the Three Kings

Many cultures celebrate the Feast of the Three Kings or the Epiphany (the official date is January 6). Hispanic, Polish, German, Indian and other cultures exchange gifts and eat cake or other sweets to celebrate the visit of the three kings to the baby Jesus with gifts. Join us at the library to eat cake and help make decorated crowns for the chil-

dren.

Saturday, January 13
2-4 p.m.

New Year, New You!

Join Monique Anderson as she shows new make-up colors and gives skin care tips.

Wednesday nights
6-7 p.m.

Civil Rights Documentary: Eyes on the Prize

This documentary has been hailed as the "most comprehensive television documentary on the American Civil Rights movement ever produced." The film series includes rare film footage and present-day interviews to bring the events of this period to life.

• January 24

Part 1: "Awakenings," (1954-56)

• January 31

Part 2: "Fighting Back," (1957-62)

• February 7

Part 3: "Ain't Scared of Your Jails," (1960-61)

• February 14

Part 4: "No Easy Walk," (1961-63)

• February 21

Part 5: "Mississippi: Is This America?" (1962-64)

• February 28

Part 6: "Bridge to Freedom," (1965)

Wednesday, February 14
12:30-1:30 p.m.

Online Dating

Learn how to set-up a profile on popular online dating services such as e-Harmony and Match.com. Get helpful tips and meet people who have successfully used the services.

Saturday, February 17
3-4 p.m.

Chinese New Year Celebration

Join us for Chinese music, food demonstrations, and crafts at the Library.

Babies

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shown that language skills and intelligence are related to how many words an infant hears each day. Reading to your baby also helps strengthen the bond between parent and child.

Cuddle up and read your baby a book. It is fun and one of the easiest things you can do now to prepare your child to be happy and successful in school.

Books for Babies is funded by the Foundation of the Board of Trustees of the Atlantic City Free Public Library with the support of United Way of Atlantic County,

AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center and Shore Memorial Hospital.

Here is a recommended reading list for babies ages 0-6 months:

- *The Baby's Lap Book* by Kay Chora
- *Dr. Seuss's Sleep Book*
- *The Three Bears Rhyme Book* by Jane Yolen
- *Black on White* by Tana Hoban
- *More More More Said the Baby* by Vera B. Williams
- *Goodnight Moon* board book by Margaret Wise Brown

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.
For children ages 9-12

Computer Club!

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25

For children ages 6-12

Famous February People!

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22

NOTE: Children under nine must be accompanied by a supervising adult.

Story times
Pre-schoolers
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22

Earl pushes to have spirituals recognized as national treasure

► New Jersey Sen. Robert Menendez and Connecticut Rep. Rosa DeLauro sponsored twin resolutions that would officially make the African American spiritual a 'national treasure.'

Should the African American spiritual become an official 'national treasure,' Calvin Earl will be largely responsible.

Earl, who will bring his "Gifts From My Ancestors" concert/lecture to the Atlantic City Free Public Library on February 3 (see page 1), spearheaded the campaign to have Congress officially honor the African American spiritual.

He moved closer to his goal this past year when New Jersey Sen. Robert Menendez and Connecticut Rep. Rosa DeLauro introduced bills that would formally acknowledge the spirituals. The bills had not been voted on as of December 7, 2006. They would have to be resubmitted in '07, but Menendez and DeLauro are honored to do so, Earl said.

Rock and roll and blues music are recognized as national treasures; however, according to Menendez and DeLauro aides, the congressional measure would be the first for the African American spirituals.

Speaking before Senate in March 2006, Menendez thanked

Earl for helping make the resolution happen.

"This important piece of legislation recognizes that the African American spiritual is a poignant and powerful genre of American music that contributes to the cultural richness of our country," Menendez said. "I am very proud to sponsor this resolution and grateful to the individuals who helped make this landmark occasion possible."

DeLauro called the African American spiritual "perhaps the most important musical tradition in our history."

"Though they are rooted in one of the darkest periods of our history as a nation, spirituals have also inspired America's greatest musical accomplishments, from entire genres such as jazz and rock 'n' roll to moving works of opera and orchestral music," she said. "Songs such as 'We Shall Overcome,' 'Go Down Moses,' and 'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,' have entered our cultural lexicon and that of the world. Today, human beings across the globe play and enjoy music that draws on the musical legacy of enslaved Africans. Furthermore, in its cry for deliverance, the African American spiritual captures a resounding call for justice and human dignity that instructs to this day."

Calvin Earl

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strong hold of bondage that gripped our nation. It is revealed that through it all, from slavery to reconstruction, through the Jim Crow laws, to the noble and courageous call for freedom and justice of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s, this inspiring music kept the spirit of this nation focused on freedom for all people.

Earl, who has performed at the

Lincoln and Kennedy centers, released his second CD, *Gratitude*, in 2004. The album is a collection of African American spirituals specifically recorded to help teachers and students experience the music created by the African people enslaved in America.

Gratitude is available at several historic sites in the United States, including the Ellis Island Immigration Museum gift store. Samples of the music can be found at iTunes and www.calvinearl.com

Add your group to the library's directory of Greater A.C. Clubs and Organizations

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is updating its publication "Clubs & Organizations in The Greater Atlantic City Area." It includes charities, professional and business associations, support groups, clubs, alumni organizations, cultural organizations, etc.

We could use your help in iden-

tifying new organizations to be included in the publication. If you know of a group we can add to the next edition, please send the name, address, contact person and telephone number to Pat Rothenberg at prothe@acfpl.org or call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3062, and leave that information.

O.A.S.I.S. OLDER ADULTS SPECIAL INTEREST SERIES JOIN US MONDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30 A.M.



Jan. 1, 2007
New Year's Day
Library is closed

Jan. 8, 2007
Self Defense for Seniors
Larry Horn,
Atlantic City Police Department
Officer

Jan. 15, 2007
Martin Luther King Day
Library is closed

Jan. 22, 2007
Making Memories: Scrapbooking Ideas
Dawn Tepper,
Creative Memories consultant

Jan. 29, 2007
Atlantic City Free Public Library African-American Collection
Heather Halpin,
Atlantic City Public Library staff

Feb. 5, 2007
"Our Constitution: A Conversa-

tion"
Discussion to follow the viewing of this DVD.

Feb. 12, 2007
Lincoln's Birthday
Library is closed

Feb. 19, 2007
Presidents' Day
Library is closed

Feb. 26, 2007
Blogging: What's It All About?
Janet Marler,
Atlantic City Public Library staff

COMPUTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

What's This? Introduction to Basic PC Operation

Jan. 9 Tuesday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 17 Saturday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Introduction to MS Word (Word Processing fundamentals)

Jan. 20 Saturday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 13 Tuesday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Internet Basics (For beginners)

Jan. 29 Monday 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 26 Monday 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please call 345-2269, ext. 3066 to register

ALL TRAINING WILL BE IN SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM

ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

FILM SOCIETY

Watch • Listen • Learn • Discuss

The Atlantic City Free Public Library Film Society has scheduled its January and February meetings.

Atlantic City Free Public Library adult members (18 years of age and older) in good standing are invited to join the Film Society. Applications are available at the Main Library, Richmond Branch and online at www.acfpl.org.

• **Saturday, Jan. 6, at 1 p.m.** — The Film Society will watch and then discuss the Hollywood classic "Sunset Boulevard," starring William Holden and Gloria Swanson. The movie is not rated and runs 110 minutes.

• **Monday, Jan. 8, at 5:30 p.m.** — Classroom session: Classic Hollywood Cinema. This session

will focus on what makes a film a Hollywood classic and the cinematic elements that all of these films have in common.

• **Saturday, Feb. 24, at 1 p.m.** — The Film Society will watch and then discuss the romantic comedy "Trouble in Paradise," starring Herbert Marshall, Miriam Hopkins and Kay Francis. This 1932 movie is not rated and runs 82 minutes.

• **Monday, Feb. 26, at 5:30 p.m.** — Classroom session: This session will focus on the work and influence of director Ernst Lubitsch, a pioneer of romantic comedies.

For more information about the Film Society, please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112; or, visit www.acfpl.org.

To receive your Discovery via e-mail, visit

www.acfpl.org

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and then fill out the "Subscribe to News" section

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is an independent municipal library funded and operated by the City of Atlantic City and governed by a Board of Trustees.

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Domenic Cappella,

Business Administrator

Umar Salahuddin,

Director Health & Human Services

Atlantic City Council

(Listed by Ward)

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Marty Small (2nd)

Joyce Mollineaux (3rd)

William Marsh (4th)

Dennis Mason (5th)

Timothy Mancuso (6th)

John J. Schultz (At-Large)

Eugene Robinson (At-Large)

George Tibbitt (At-Large)

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Did You Know?

The Atlantic City Public Library offers wireless access to Internet

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is pleased to offer wireless Internet access to persons with wireless-enabled devices.

Visitors to the Main Library at 1 North Tennessee Avenue can access the Internet with their own computer equipment. Our Network supports any 802.11b or 802.11g Wi-Fi device including notebooks and Macs, PDA's and some cell phones.

Wireless allows library users to bring their own computers to the Library and get Internet access. Wireless saves the Library from the expense of purchasing and maintaining public access computers and gives you the freedom to use your computer anywhere on the first or floor the Library.

You will need special settings and passwords to connect. You must stop by the Reference Desk to get a basic instruction sheet and the wireless network name (SSID). Please note that the Library cannot assist you with your laptop, card or configuration. The Library cannot accept the liability of handling your equipment.

Use of this wireless connection is entirely at the risk of the user and the library disclaims all liability for loss of confidential information or damages resulting from that loss.

Your interaction over the wireless network is not encrypted and could be intercepted by someone using network "sniffer" software. Avoid entering credit card numbers, passwords or any other information you consider confidential unless you are certain that the website you are interacting with provides its own security mechanisms, such as Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) encoding.



Atlantic City Free Public Library

Main Library

1 North Tennessee Avenue

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Phone: (609) 345-2269

Fax: (609) 345-5570

Free Parking

Ask for Details

Main Library Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday

10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Richmond Branch

Ventnor & Windsor Ave.

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Phone: (609) 347-1902

Richmond Branch Hours:

Mon., Wed., & Fri.

9:00 a.m. to Noon

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Summer Hours Vary

We are on the Web!

www.acfpl.org

WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Nonfiction bestsellers

A Photographer's Life: 1990-2005 by Annie Liebovitz

The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream by Barack Obama

The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins

I Like You: Hospitality Under the Influence by Amy Sedgwick

The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town by John Grisham

Palestine: Peace, Not Apartheid by Jimmy Carter

Fiction bestsellers

Brother Odd by Dean Koontz

The Collectors by David Baldacci

Cross by James Patterson

Dear John by Nicholas Sparks

First Impressions by Nora Roberts

H.R.H. by Danielle Steel

Lisey's Story by Stephen King

Nature Girl by Carl Hiaassen

Next by Michael Crichton

DVDs

Cars

The Da Vinci Code

Texas Chainsaw Massacre (2 disc ultimate edition)

You, Me, and Dupree



Atlantic City Public Library
http://www.acfpl.org

One North Tennessee Avenue

Atlantic City, New Jersey