

# Discovery

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter  
Connecting People to the World



## Use virtual reference library anywhere, anytime

► **Atlantic City Free Public Library members can visit the library's Web site — [www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org) — to use its Gale Virtual Reference Library, a collection of nearly 1,000 electronic reference books.**

Imagine a world where you can sit in the comfort of your home and

look at standard, informative reference books whenever you need to ... whether it is for your homework or personal research.

The Atlantic City Free Public Library has been steadily working towards bringing your library to you, wherever you are, with its wealth of information.

One of the newest resources acquired by the library and offered

on its Web site — [www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org) — is the Gale Virtual Reference Library. Gale provides nearly 1,000 electronic reference books searchable from our Web page or catalog — and it is available all day, every day, to Atlantic City Free Public Library members.

We also offer many other electronic research databases, giving you the power to search for maga-

zine and journal articles, find your favorite poem, look up biographical information, take practice tests, learn a language and research your family tree.

The library offers how-to sessions for all of our resources. Please call (609) 345-2269 and press 15, or e-mail [reflib@acfpl.org](mailto:reflib@acfpl.org) to get more information on our online research collection.



## Introducing the new library membership card

Atlantic City Mayor Robert W. Levy, Sr., became the first person to receive the Atlantic City Free Public Library's redesigned library card on Monday, April 16, at the Main Library. Pictured are (from the left): Library Director Maureen Sherr Frank, Betty L. Freeman, Curren Clark Ervin, Mayor Levy, Patricia A. Bailey and Alton O'Reilly. Freeman, Clark Ervin, Bailey and O'Reilly are members of the library's Board of Trustees. The library unveiled its new membership card, which is available in standard and keytag sizes, during National Library Week (April 15-21).

## Library getting all jazzed up for First Wednesday

► **The Atlantic City Free Public Library will present a jazz concert series as part of the city's First Wednesday promotion.**

Though noise is unwelcome at just about any library a person will find, the opposite will hold true over the next few months at the Atlantic City Free Public Library.

The library will kick off its special jazz summer concert series with a performance by guitarist Jimi Odell from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6 in the second-floor meeting room of the Main Library.

The concert series is being held in conjunction with First Wednesday. On the first Wednesday of every month, participating Atlantic City-area businesses offer their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### Page 2

- Donation and other new additions to Heston Collection
- New Board of Trustees president

#### Page 3

- Writer Raymond Tyler to lead workshops
- O.A.S.I.S. programs
- Film Society meetings

#### Page 4

- Library stats from '06 • What's new at the library

## Gadzooks! Library to give kids free comic books on May 5

Spiderman might be appearing in theaters ... but on May 5, Super Librarian will show up at the Atlantic City Free Public Library.

The library,



in partnership with local game and comic book shop Jester's Playhouse, will give free copies of "Super Librarian" and other comic books at a family superhero film showing at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 5 — which is officially Free Comic Book Day in North America — in the Main Library's second-floor meeting room.

Also, families are invited to visit Jester's Playhouse, located at 2408 New Road in Northfield, that day to meet some of the people who create the comics.

Super Librarian's mission in the inaugural issue is to snuff out a villain known as The Virus. But Super

CONT. ON PAGE 2

**THE ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 28**



# Library's Heston Collection receives Sands scrapbooks through generous donation

The memory of the Sands Casino Hotel, which closed for good on Nov. 11, 2006, will live on in the Atlantic City Free Public Library thanks to the generosity of Stan and Mary Sladek. The Maryland couple donated 18 scrapbooks containing Sands memorabilia to the library for its Heston Collection, which houses information and resources dedicated to Atlantic City, on March 15, 2007.

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

The Sladeks collected the memorabilia from 1980 – when the building was the Brighton Hotel & Casino – to 2004.

The scrapbooks are arranged chronologically and include photographs, programs, invitations, menus, brochures, tickets, cards, correspondence to and from casino management and personnel, bills and receipts and other keepsakes. The Sladeks also donated a written history of their visits.

Some of the featured items are:

- Clippings about the casino

workers strike of September 1986

- Invitations to see Cher perform in August 1989 and October 1991
- Photographs from the Sands' 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- Poster promoting the Russian Ballet appearances
- Clippings from *The Press of Atlantic City* and pageant program from the September 1989 Miss America Pageant
- Invitation to see Frank Sinatra perform in November 1991
- Copies of *The Islander*, the Sands employee newsletter

The Sladeks donated the scrapbooks to the Sands, where they were regular customers, in the early 2000s. When Pinnacle Entertainment purchased the Sands and announced that the building would be demolished, the Sladeks were concerned about the ultimate disposition of the scrapbooks. The Sladeks chose to have the books transferred from the Sands offices to the library's Heston Collection.

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



(From left) Mary Sladek and husband Stan Sladek stand with Atlantic City Free Public Library Heston Collection archivist Heather Halpin and Reference Department Supervisor Julie Senack on Thursday, March 15. The Sladeks donated 18 scrapbooks filled with Sands Casino Hotel memorabilia to the library for its Heston Collection room, which holds Atlantic City-related information and resources.

Free Public Library. The collection includes:

- Books, reports, periodicals, photographs, postcards, oral histories, scrapbooks and memorabilia
- Miss America Pageant yearbooks and photographs
- Casino and gaming information
- Atlantic City tourism information
- News clippings
- Microfilm holdings, including *The Press of Atlantic City* from 1895 to present; *The Jewish Record*

from 1939-1966; City directories from 1872-1982 (not complete); census records for Atlantic County and atlases of Atlantic City and Absecon Island from the early 1900s.

The public is welcome to view the scrapbooks in the Heston Collection room during open research hours: 2-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays, and 9:30 a.m.-noon and 2-4:30 p.m. Thursdays. There are also appointment-only hours. Call Heston Collection archivist Heather Halpin at (609) 345-2269, ext. 3062.

## Jazz concerts

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

customers special discounts or events.

Odell, 75, is in his 57th year as a professional musician, playing throughout New Jersey — including the Cape May Jazz Festival — Pennsylvania and Washington, DC.

Veteran jazz critic and writer Donald True Van Deusen has said that Odell, a Chestnut Hill, Pa., resi-

dent, is “easily one of the finest guitarists working today.”

He described Odell's guitar playing and singing as “nothing less than pure poetry.”

Please visit the library's Web site — [www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org) — to see who will be performing in coming months.

To learn more about First Wednesday and the participating businesses, please visit [www.firstwednesdayac.com](http://www.firstwednesdayac.com).

## Free comics

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Librarian, the first comic book ever created, produced and issued by public libraries, has a higher calling: enticing young readers to the library.

New Jersey libraries has partnered with Diamond Distributors to reach out to comic book fans for Free Comic Book Day. Diamond distributed copies of Super Librarian: The Virus comic books at comic book stores throughout the state.

More than 200 libraries throughout the state will join in the festivities by partnering with their local

comic book store.

The comic book is also available in Spanish, another segment of at-risk readers in New Jersey the library community is reaching. A Web version is also available at [www.njlibraries.org](http://www.njlibraries.org).

## What's new in the library's Heston Collection

The following items are new to the Heston Collection, either donated or purchased in the last three months. Please visit the Heston Room during research hours or inquire at the Reference Desk to see these wonderful additions or to donate your Atlantic City historical items.

- Atlantic City High School *Herald* 1951 – donated by Arthur Hartwell, Jr.
- Miss America Pageant 2007 program and 2007 contestant photographs – donated by the Miss America Organization
- Stan and Mary Sladek's Collection of Sands Casino Memorabilia, 1980-2004 – donated by Stan and Mary Sladek (see related article on this page)
- Atlantic City Tax Map (1995); Atlantic City Ward Map (2003); Drug, DWI & Weapon Free Public Buildings/Housing Sites, and Park and Recreation Sites 500 Ft. Perimeter Map (2004); Drug, DWI & Weapon Free

School Zone 1000 Ft. Perimeter Map (2004) – donated by the City Engineer's office

- *Black History Month* 2007 – donated by the Atlantic City Special Improvement District
- *The Good Life* 2007-2008; 2006 *Membership Directory* – donated by the Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce
- “Innformed” (newsletter of the Atlantic City Hotel & Lodging Association) – donated by ACHLA
- Photographs: Atlantic City Sea Gulls, 1936-1937; Atlantic City and Shore Cillier, Inlet loop; Black Family at the Atlantic City Shore; Lady by Seaside Hotel sign, 1939
- Photograph Collection: Atlantic City in the early 1990s – donated by Gayle Trimble
- Postcards: Boardwalk and Luxury Hotels, Atlantic City, 1968 – donated by Clayton Allen; Lifeboat on the Crest at Atlantic City, 1909

## Cheatham elected president of library's Board of Trustees

The Atlantic City Free Public Library's Board of Trustees has chosen William Cheatham as its new president.

Also, Curren Clark Ervin was elected vice president. Betty L. Freeman will remain secretary/treasurer.

The Board of Trustees expresses its appreciation to outgoing officers Patricia A. Bailey, president, and Fredrick P. Nickles, vice president.

Cheatham spent 10 years working at the Atlantic City Convention Center, where he was a Security Officer and



CHEATHAM

Sergeant. Prior to that, he was also a Soft Count Manager at Harrah's Casino. Cheatham has previously volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City and Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Atlantic and Cape May County.

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is an independent municipal library funded and operated by the City of Atlantic City and administered by a Board of Trustees. Board of Trustees members are appointed for five-year terms, and are responsible for overseeing the operation of the library. The Board of Trustees works with the library staff to provide a broad range of programs and services for the community.



# Writer Raymond Tyler to direct May workshops for teens, adults

Atlantic City Weekly columnist Raymond Tyler will share his wealth of writing, poetry and publication knowledge with teens and adults during a series of weekly workshops in May at the Atlantic City Free Public Library.

The series will begin May 9 and run four weeks. The teen sessions (for ages 14-18) will be held from 4-6 p.m., and the adult sessions will follow from 6-8 p.m.

The teen workshops will be held in conjunction with the City of Atlantic City Recreation Department.

- The teen session schedule is:
- **May 9: Poetry** — Teens are encouraged to share their poetry, learn to improve their writing, challenge themselves with writing prompts and prepare for presentations.
  - **May 16: Science Fiction and other Creative Writing** — Calling young comic book fans, artists, sci-fi, Harry Potter fans and other fantasy fans. We'll discuss, share and create fantastic fiction of all kinds.
  - **May 23: The Newsletter** — Ever wanted to write a record review? Ever wanted to interview your favorite ball player or recording star? Want to become a part of Atlantic City's newsletter for youth? Then make sure you are at the library to learn how to do so.
  - **May 30: GOT SKILLS?** — Join us for a day when young people can show off their skills. Bring your poems, one-act plays, songs to

sing, musical instruments or whatever your onstage talent is. Also, you can come and support your friends and have some light refreshments.

- The adult schedule is:
- **May 9: Poetry** — Share, improve and discuss original and classic poetry.
  - **May 16: Creative Writing** — Bring your short stories, novel outlines, art work, plays and scripts to share, scrapbook and gain expert insight. Also, bring ideas for journal.
  - **May 23: Atlantic City Live!** — Join us as we bring in special guests. If you loved great talk shows such as *Phil Donahue*, this is for you.
  - **May 30: Live On Stage** — Bring on your poetry, songs, music and artistic expression. Or, just come and enjoy a great show and some light refreshments.

In addition to his work with *Atlantic City Weekly*, Tyler, an Atlantic City native, is a contributing writer for *The Courier Post* and *The Philadelphia Weekly*. His articles have appeared in top urban magazines such as *Vibe*, *The Source*, *XXL* and *Essence*.

Tyler also hosts and produces NBC 40's talk show "Forum 40" and the music radio show "Alternative Soul," which airs from 6-8 p.m. on Saturdays on 102.7 FM.

Please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112, for more information about the workshops.

# Children can learn and have fun in Summer Reading Program

Mysterious happenings will be the theme for the Atlantic City Free Public Library's Summer Reading Programs.

Super sleuths and daring detectives ages 3-12 can take part in the Get a Clue @ Your Library reading program.

Teens will discover that You Never Know what you will find when you join the YNK @ Your Library Summer Reading Program.

The mystery theme will carry through the summer with an oppor-

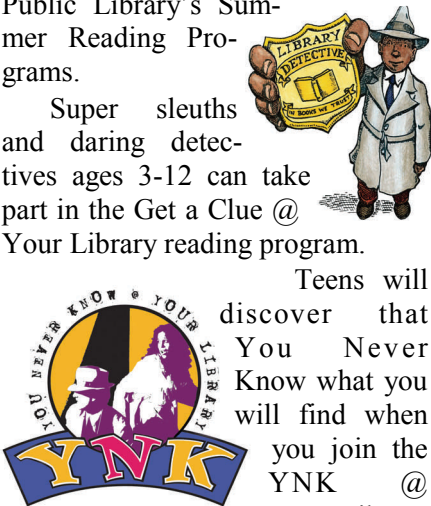
tunity to read for prizes, attend special programs and watch movies.

The library welcomes children of all reading levels.

Maintaining the recreational reading habit during the summer vacation from school helps children at all reading levels develop speed and confidence.

Families with children too young to read by themselves are invited to join the Read-to-Me portion of the Summer Reading Program. Parents can give their children a head start on reading success by reading aloud with younger children and by having the child "read" the illustrations in picture books.

For more information, please call the Youth Services Department at (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050.



## Pre-schooler story times

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

June 7, 14, 21, 28



## O.A.S.I.S.

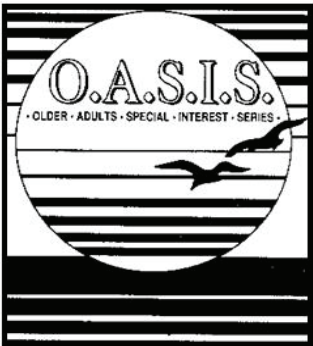
OLDER ADULTS SPECIAL INTEREST SERIES  
JOIN US MONDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30 A.M.

**May 7, 2007**  
*President Bush and the War in Iraq*  
Professor Alan Arcuri,  
Richard Stockton  
College of New Jersey

**May 14, 2007**  
*Mental Illness and the Family*  
Gail Dembin,  
NAMI Atlantic County

**May 21, 2007**  
*Paper Making Workshop*  
Artist Janet Bodoff

**May 28, 2007**  
*Memorial Day*  
Library is closed



**June 4, 2007**  
*Journal Making Workshop*  
Artist Janet Bodoff

**June 11, 2007**  
*Let's Get Organized!*  
Becky Banks,  
Organizing  
Essentials

**June 18, 2007**  
*Healthy Aging*  
Dr. Ira Stein

**June 25, 2007**  
*What's Going on at the Marine Mammal Stranding Center*  
Education Outreach Coordinator  
Melanie Reding

## COMPUTER TRAINING CENTER

### TRAINING SCHEDULE

#### What's This? Introduction to Basic PC Operation (For first time users)

May 8	Tuesday	10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
June 23	Saturday	10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

#### Introduction to MS Word (Word processing fundamentals)

May 19	Saturday	10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
June 12	Tuesday	10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

#### Internet Basics (For beginners)

May 21	Monday	6 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
June 25	Monday	6 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

#### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please call 345-2269, ext. 3066 to register

ALL TRAINING WILL BE IN THE SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM

## ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

# FILM SOCIETY

### Watch • Listen • Learn • Discuss

The Atlantic City Free Public Library Film Society has planned its March and April 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](http://www.acfpl.org).

• **Saturday, May 12, at 12 p.m.** — The Film Society will view and discuss "The Thin Man" and "After The Thin Man." This session will be a double screening of the 1934 comedy classic and its first sequel. Both movies star William Powell and Myrna Loy. The films are not rated and run 91 and 112 minutes, respectively. There will be a short intermission between the films.

• **Monday, May 14, at 5:30**

**p.m.** — Classroom session: Movie Sequels. This classroom session will focus on the basic history and phenomenon of movies and their sequels. There will be a short discussion of Saturday's films at the beginning of the class.

• **Saturday, June 9, at 1 p.m.** — The Film Society will watch and discuss "Bicycle Thieves," a 1949 foreign language classic directed by Vittorio De Sica. The film is not rated and runs 89 minutes. It will be shown in its original Italian language with English subtitles.

• **Monday, June 11, at 5:30 p.m.** — Classroom session: Neo-Realist Cinema. This classroom session will focus on this post-war Italian film movement and its effects on filmmaking worldwide.

For more information, please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112.

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.

Robert W. Levy, Sr., Mayor  
Domenic Cappella, Business Administrator  
Umar Salahuddin, Director Health and Human Services

Atlantic City Council  
(Listed by Ward)  
G. Bruce Ward (1st)  
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)

Library Board of Trustees  
Patricia A. Bailey  
William Cheatham  
Curene Clark Ervin  
Mary Lou Faulk  
Betty L. Freeman  
Fredrick P. Nickles  
Alton O'Reilly

Maureen Sherr Frank, Library Director  
Don Latham, Discovery Editor

Atlantic City, New Jersey  
One North Tennessee Avenue

huvqll d!qnd eorj  
h!p q!uor!o  


# Did You Know?

Patrons checked out 161,103 items from the ACFLP in 2006

Atlantic City Free Public Library staff remained busy in 2006 — and we thank you for that.  
The staff members at the Main Library and Richmond Branch were happy to be of service to our patrons, whether you were borrowing a CD, DVD or book from the *New York Times* best-seller list, participating in the Film Society or one of our other great programs, checking out our Heston Collection of Atlantic City history, utilizing our Computer Center or visiting us during a special event, such as the Atlantic City Arts, Books & Culture Festival, Kwanzaa celebration, Luau @ the Library or “Apprentice” program featuring Dr. Randal Pinkett.  
Here is a look at some of the activities from 2006:  
• Books, DVDs and CDs checked out from Main Library and Richmond Branch: 161,103  
• New library cards issued: 2,525  
• Informational and entertainment programs: 234  
• Children and adults attending programs: 5,727  
• Number of periodicals requested: 23,840  
• Number of computer sessions at Main Library: 75,299  
• Interlibrary loan items: 757  
• Reference questions answered: 35,242  
• People entering library: 335,000 (estimated)  
• Volumes added to the collection: 8,930  
• Titles added to the collection: 6,491



Among the library's highlights last year was an appearance by “Apprentice” winner Dr. Randal Pinkett, center, on May 15, 2006.



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 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Richmond Branch  
Ventnor & Windsor Avenues  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Phone: (609) 347-1902

Richmond Branch Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
9 a.m. to noon  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Summer hours vary

We are on the Web!  
www.acfpl.org