

Loud & Clear

SUMMER 2007 • Volume 19, No. 3

Summer Reading Program 2007 – Virginia Treasures

Summer fun for kids and teens includes Fairfax County Public Library's annual summer reading program. This year's program, "Virginia Treasures," begins June 18 and runs through September 1. Sign up soon to earn great prizes by participating in the reading game! Preschoolers through rising sixth graders read 15 books in order to complete the program, and students entering grades 7-12 read eight books. You may read any books you choose. See the "Recorded Reading Roundup" in this issue for just a few of the many good books available. Check the National Library Service and library catalogs for more ideas, or ask us for recommendations.



Access Services customers may join the summer reading program either by visiting a local library branch or by contacting us. We will send you all materials and information through the mail if you call 703-324-8380 or e-mail access@fairfaxcounty.gov. When you complete the reading log and return it to Access Services or to your local library, you will receive a coupon book full of free and discounted prizes donated by area businesses and organizations. Reading logs must be turned in by Sept. 1. One coupon booklet per reader. Lost booklets will not be replaced. In addition to the program's reading game, our library branches will offer lots of special summer programs and performances. These require advance sign-up, so check the calendar of events at your neighborhood library or on the Internet at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.

**Fairfax
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Library**

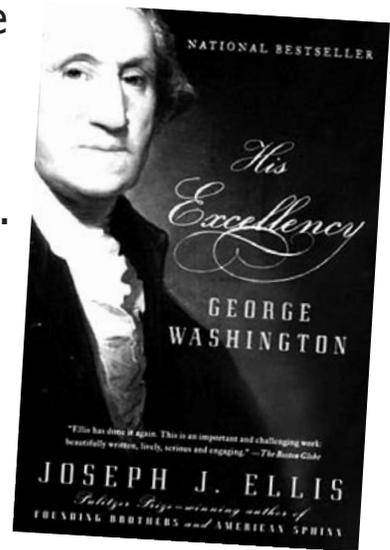
Access Services

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Adult Summer Reading: All Fairfax Reads

Summer reading is fun for grown-ups, too! If you like to share good books with others, consider participating in All Fairfax Reads. This program encourages adults in the community to read the same book and talk about it in discussion groups and at other events. It is modeled on more than 100 similar "One Book, One City" projects throughout the United States.



This year's All Fairfax Reads selection is an outstanding non-fiction title, *His Excellency: George Washington*, by Joseph J. Ellis. A bestseller in 2004, this accessible history delves into the life and times of America's first president, using personal papers and historical accounts to recreate the man who was a French and Indian War veteran, plantation owner, businessman and savvy politician. The book is available as Talking Book Program cassette **RC 59070**, and the library also has copies in large print, CD, and standard print. A braille version is available from the National Library Service. Special events for All Fairfax Reads will include a presentation by the book's author on September 27, 2007 as part of the annual Fall for the Book festival at George Mason University. Watch for announcements; check the library's Web site; or contact Access Services for more information.

Volunteer News

Hurrah for Rosemary Hilsabeck, Hannah Lederman, Thelma Sheridan, Rhoda Stevens and Gloria Sussman, who received 2007 Star Volunteer Awards from the Fairfax County Public Library. The fabulous five were honored as a group for their energetic service as volunteer facilitators of vision support groups coordinated by the Access Services library. They were nominated by **Beena Pandey**, Access Services circulation manager and volunteer coordinator. Congratulations! The support groups are open to adults with vision impairments, their families, and friends. Groups meet monthly in Alexandria, Fairfax, Reston, Springfield and Vienna. For information or to get in touch with a group leader, contact Access Services.

Summer Recorded Reading Roundup for Kids & Teens

Fiction: Preschool - Grade 8

Amelia Bedelia, Bookworm by Herman Parish. *RC 58213*

When Amelia decides to help the librarian, she causes chaos in the library. Grades K-3.

The Black Canary by Jane Louise Curry. *RC 61212*

While visiting London, 12-year-old James Parrett steps through a basement portal into Elizabethan England. Grades 5-8.

The Boys of San Joaquin by D.J. Smith *RC 63488*

Paolo, his little brother, and their deaf cousin join a search for missing church collection money. Grades 5-8.

From Slave to Soldier: Based on a True Civil War Story

by Deborah Hopkinson *RC 61751*

Johnny escapes from slavery, joins the Union Army, and performs brave deeds to bring food to hungry soldiers. Grades 2-4.

Little Rat Sets Sail

by Monika Bang-Campbell *RC 55657*

Little Rat's parents sign her up for sailing lessons even though she is afraid of water. Grades K-3.

Nanny McPhee: The Collected Tales of Nurse Matilda

by Christianna Brand *RC 62380*

The numerous and naughty Brown children meet their match when Nurse Matilda arrives. Grades 3-6.

■ continued on page 4

■ **Fiction: Preschool to Grade 8 continued**

The Star of Kazan by Eva Ibbotson *RC 60293*

Available in CD from library branches. In 19th-century Austria, Annika lives happily with her foster family until an aristocrat claims to be her real parent. Grades 5-8.

Nonfiction: Preschool - Grade 8:

Bodies From the Ash by James Deem *RC 62184*

Relates what happened when Mount Vesuvius erupted, burying Pompeii in A.D. 79. Grades 4-7.

ER Vets: Life in an Animal Emergency Room

by Donna Jackson *RC 61876*

Information about pets that need care, the vets who help them, first aid for pets, and grief counseling when a pet dies. Grades 5-8.

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship

by Isabella Hatkoff *RC 62663*

Baby hippo Owen, stranded after the 2004 tsunami, meets a 130-year-old tortoise who becomes his substitute mother. Grades K-3.

Transformed: How Everyday Things Are Made

by Bill Slavin *RC 61929*

Step-by-step explanations of processes that transform natural materials into things we eat, wear or use. Grades 4-7.

Fiction: Senior High**Away Laughing on a Fast Camel: Even More Confessions of Georgia Nicholson** by Louise Rennison **RC 58377**

Hilarious journal entries from a spirited English schoolgirl. Available in CD from library branches. Follows *Dancing in My Nuddy-Pants*, **RC 56064**, also available in CD from library branches.

The Color of Absence: 12 Stories About Loss and Hope

edited by James Howe **RC 54873**

Short stories depicting individuals coping with various losses, such as mourning a loved one, and losing a championship baseball game.

Feed by M.T. Anderson **RC 55687**

In the future, people receive streaming information through head implants. After a hacker's attack, teenager Titus's system recovers, but his friend Violet suffers serious malfunctions. Some strong language. Available in CD and two-track cassette from library branches.

High Heat by Carl Deuker **RC 57311**

Seattle high school baseball star Shane finds his comfortable life overturned when his father is arrested for money laundering.

The Tequila Worm by Viola Canales **RC 61891**

Ninth-grader Sofia is part of a loving Mexican-American family of storytellers. Her upbringing and traditions help her adjust to the new environment of an exclusive Texas boarding school.

Nonfiction: Senior High

Love Stories: Stories of True Romance

edited by Jennifer Soong *RC 54217*

Teenage couples relate how they met and fell in love.

Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board

by Bethany Hamilton *RC 59485*

A Hawaiian junior champion who lost an arm in a shark attack describes working with a blind psychologist and relearning her sport.

Teen Life in the Middle East

edited by Ali Akbar Mahdi *RC 58136*

The daily lives of young adults in 12 nations and territories, including family, education, recreation, religion and culture.

When I Was a Soldier: A Memoir by Valerie Zenatti *RC 61463*

A French-born Israeli recalls compulsory military service and how she coped with confusion about national identity, homesickness, breaking up with her boyfriend, and learning to kill.

“Books to the ceiling, Books to the sky, My pile of books is a mile high. How I love them! How I need them! I’ll have a long beard by the time I read them!”

– Arnold Lobel, 1923-1987

Metro Is Accessible Project

Metro Is Accessible provides information to the public about accessibility features. This outreach is targeted to people with disabilities, disability advocacy organizations, and social service agencies. Orientation sessions are available for individuals or groups. Sessions include everything from how to locate bus stops and Metrorail stations to purchasing a fare card and navigating the system. To schedule an orientation, call 202-962-1558.

Coping With Low Vision

Research to Prevent Blindness offers these suggestions to help manage low vision:

- Get a low-vision evaluation, which is different from an ordinary eye exam, by a low-vision specialist. Your eye doctor can recommend a low-vision specialist, or you can search for local low-vision services at the American Foundation for the Blind's Web site, **www.afb.org**.
- With your low vision-specialist, learn to utilize remaining vision to its fullest potential by investigating special eyewear, adaptive equipment such as speech recognition and computer navigation programs, special television systems, and other independent living aids.
- Improve lighting and reduce glare in your home and surroundings.
- Increase the contrast in things you use daily: put coffee in a white cup; use a dark, fat-tipped pen, etc.

Research to Prevent Blindness offers more tips and resources on its Web site, **www.rpbusa.org**. You may also obtain information about this leading supporter of eye research by calling 1-800-621-0026 or e-mailing **inforequest@rpbusa.org**.

Facts About Age-Related Macular Degeneration

The National Eye Institute has a 20-page large print booklet available, *Age Related Macular Degeneration: What You Should Know*. It provides information about age-related macular degeneration for patients, families, and friends. Contents include forms of the disease, symptoms, and types of treatment. The booklet is available in English and Spanish. Up to 20 copies may be requested at no charge. To order copies and to find out about other free publications and programs offered by the institute, call 301-496-5248. You can also e-mail **2020@nei.nih.gov**. Or, visit the Web site at **www.nei.nih.gov**. The National Eye Institute is part of the National Institutes of Health, an agency of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Web Corner: Four to Explore

- America's 400th anniversary is celebrated at **www.jamestown.org**. The official site on the founding of Jamestown, Virginia includes an events calendar, links to educational materials, games, and descriptions of earlier commemorations.
- Including All Kids promotes inclusion of children and youth with disabilities in community-based youth programs and organizations. **www.includingallkids.org**
- National Public Radio provides audio links honoring the 75th anniversary of a classic crime novel, *The Maltese Falcon*, by Dashiell Hammett, at **www.npr.org**. *The Maltese Falcon* is available as part of NLS Talking Book **RC 55472**, *Hammett's Complete Novels*. Library branches have the novel in CD and two-track audio.
- Uncle Sam's kids can go to a family-friendly site from the United States government for links to more than 500 sites from schools, government agencies, and educational organizations, grouped by subject and geared to children's interests. **www.kids.gov**.



New Format for RFB&D Recorded Textbooks

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic is encouraging all members to make the transition to its new digital CD format. As of July 2007, RFB&D will offer its audio books only in CD format. Users will need specially adapted CD players or special software in order to read RFB&D materials. For more information, call 1-866-732-3585 or visit www.rfbd.org.

Talking Book Program Tips: Rewinding

If you listen to talking books on a standard cassette player and you are able to rewind the tapes, you can assist Access Services. Rewinding each cassette as you finish it can prevent damage to the tape and saves time in getting the book to the next reader. Place the cassette in the machine with the braille side up and push the rewind button. Your help in caring for our Talking Book Program collection is greatly appreciated. Are you unable to rewind? Don't be concerned! When you send materials back to Access Services, our staff and volunteers check every cassette and make sure all tapes are rewound before they are returned to our shelves or mailed to other Talking Book Program readers.

Enhance Your Library

Please consider the Access Services library when you plan your charitable giving. Less than one cent of each local tax dollar is used for the library system. Private donations are critically needed to maintain high-quality libraries, including specialized services to those with disabilities. Contributions in any amount are welcome and are tax-deductible. Checks should be made payable to the Fairfax County Public Library Foundation, Inc. with "For Access Services" specified in the memo line and cover letter. Online giving is also available. For more information call the foundation at 703-324-8300 or e-mail info@fcplfoundation.org.

Contact Us

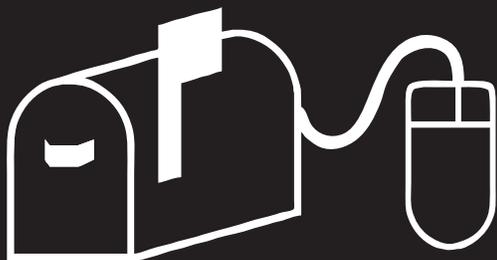
We hope you have enjoyed this issue of *Loud & Clear*. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions concerning the newsletter, please contact Outreach Manager Ken Plummer or Branch Manager Starr Smith. Call 703-324-8380, TTY 703-324-8365, or e-mail access@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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LOOKING FOR DATA?

What's in the library's online databases?

- ***Biography***
- ***Business and Finance***
- ***Computers***
- ***Consumer***
- ***Genealogy***
- ***Geography***
- ***Government***
- ***Grants***
- ***Health and Medicine***
- ***History***
- ***Homework – Grades K-8***
- ***Homework – Grades 9-12***
- ***Literature and Books***
- ***Science***

Do you need articles, reports, statistics or data on any of these subjects?

- ***Company Directories***
- ***eAudiobooks***
- ***eBooks***
- ***Encyclopedias and Dictionaries***
- ***Magazines***
- ***Maps***
- ***Newspapers***
- ***Pictures***
- ***Poems, Short Stories and Speeches***
- ***Statistics***
- ***Tests***
- ***Transcripts From Radio and Television***

Have your Fairfax County Public Library card handy and click on "databases" from the library's Web site:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library

Free Downloadable Audio Books

Don't forget: There are many audio books available for free downloading through the Fairfax County Public Library at **www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library**. Look for netLibrary and OverDrive in the database section. Call Access Services at 703-324-8380 if you have any questions.



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