

Loud & Clear

SUMMER 2010 • Volume 22, No. 2

Fun, Fun, Fun – with the Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program, Hook a Book, begins on Monday, June 21. You can sign up for the program at your local library or online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library. Just click on the “Summer Reading Program” link. All readers who complete the program get a coupon book filled with free and discounted fun things to do this summer. This year preschoolers through sixth grade need to read 15 books to complete the program while students in the 7-12 grades must read eight books. Don’t forget Talking Book selections count as well. Keep reading, keep cool, hook a book (or two) and have fun!

Tech Quest 2010 Fair Wrap-up

The Tech Quest 2010 Fair was well attended as over 200 customers gathered information from 18 vendors and community resources. Vicki Collins and Don Olson from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) and Access’s own Daniel Ramos displayed the new digital players and demonstrated how to download digital items from the BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) database. They were busy all day. The enthusiasm of the **■ continued on page 2**



Access Services

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customers is best represented by these overheard comments:

“Most informative – I learned more today than ever before.”

“The new digital Talking Book player is just wonderful and yes, I did learn how to download.”

Access Services staff thanks all who came and supported the Fair.

More Digital Information

The new digital players continue to earn praises from the customers who have received them. People like the sound quality, how easy the machine is to use and they love that there is no cassette to switch or flip over. If you have not received a new player yet and you would like to place an order for one, please call us at 703-324-8380.

As more customers enjoy the digital player people are curious how they can have access to all of the digital titles. If you or someone in your family has a high speed computer and an e-mail address, the best way to search the digital offerings is to go to the BARD database.

Please follow these steps:

Go to **nlsbard.loc.gov**.

Click on “BARD application instructions”

Click on “Link to BARD application”

Using the drop-down menu, select “Fairfax County Public Library Access Services VA”

Submit.

You will then receive a confirmation e-mail and a PASSWORD.

You now have the tools you need to search the BARD database.

Remember: In order to download materials you will need to have a high speed Internet connection and a device such as a “thumb drive” or a blank cartridge.

New Fairfax County Public Library Hours of Operation

Beginning July 1, 2010, the library will adopt the following hours of operation:

Regional Branches

Monday and Wednesday	1- 9 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday and Friday	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday hours remain	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday hours remain	1- 5 p.m.

Community Branches

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday	1 - 9 p.m.
Saturday hours remain	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Access Services hours will remain unchanged, Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Summer Program Note

Come one, come all! There will be a family concert at the Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax on Saturday, July 10 at 7 p.m. by Brady Rymer and the Little Band That Could. The concert is made possible through a generous donation from the Friends of George Mason Regional Library.

To check other program listings pick up a copy of This Month at your local library or go online to fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events and click on "Calendar of Events."

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Enhance Your Library

Please consider the Access Services branch as part of your charitable giving. Private donations are critically needed to maintain high-quality library services. Contributions in any amount are welcome and are tax deductible.

Checks may be sent to Access Services, made payable to the Fairfax Library Foundation with "for Access Services" specified in the memo line or cover letter. For more information, contact Access Services or call the foundation at 703-324-8300.

All Fairfax READS

The Art of Racing in the Rain (RC/DB 66787) by Garth Stein has been selected as the seventh All Fairfax Reads book title. The book jacket describes this tale as "a heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty and hope" and "a beautifully crafted and captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life...as only a dog could tell it." Enjoy this community read during the summer and make plans now to hear Mr. Stein discuss his writings on Sunday, September 19, at 5 p.m. at George Mason University as part of the Fall for the Book festival.

"Reading makes immigrants of us all. It takes us away from home, but more important, it finds homes for us everywhere."

– Hazel Rochman

READING ROUNDUP

In honor of *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, the All Fairfax Reads selection this summer, the staff of Access Services recommends these books that feature animals.

Please call AS at 703-324-8380 to see if the title is available digitally.

Books for Children

Henry and Mudge

Cynthia Rylant **RC 55800**

Henry's parents agree to give their only child a puppy named Mudge, which quickly grows to 180 pounds. Henry and Mudge are constant companions except for one day when Mudge is lost. For grades K-3. Additional titles are available in the same series.

Akimbo and the Elephants

Alexander McCall Smith **RC 67045**

Akimbo loves watching the elephants on the game preserve in East Africa where his father works. When Akimbo learns that the authorities cannot catch the poachers who kill elephants for their ivory tusks, he comes up with a plan to save the elephants himself. For grades 2-4. Available through FCPL branches in CD format. Additional titles are available in the same series.

Three Terrible Trins

Dick King **RC 42461**

The mouse trins (like twins but with three) are a fearsome lot and they decide to show the farm cats who is the real boss. For grades 2-4.

Fantastic Mr. Fox

Roahl Dahl **RC 25380**

Three enraged farmers are determined to catch the wily fox. For grades 3-6.

Charlotte's Web

E.B. White **RC 46839**

A little girl who can talk to animals is devoted to both Wilbur, the foolishly smug pig, and Charlotte, the beautiful gray spider who saves Wilbur's life. For grades 3-6. Available through FCPL branches in CD and eAudiobook format.

Stuart Little

E.B. White **RC 31831**

When Mrs. Little's second son is born, everybody notices that he is not much bigger than a mouse. In fact, they soon discover that he is a mouse! Because of his size, Stuart is always getting lost, but this is the least of his unique problems. For grades 4-7. Available through FCPL branches in CD and eAudiobook format.

Complete Chronicles of Narnia

C.S. Lewis **RC 50083**

Seven stories presented in the chronological order in which C.S. Lewis intended them to be read. For grades 4-7. Each individual title is available through FCPL branches in CD and eAudiobook format.

Into the Wild

Erin Hunter **RC 66677**

A young house cat, Rusty leaves home to join the endangered ThunderClan, one of four rival clans of wildcats claiming the forest. With noble warrior cats mysteriously dying, Rusty trains to become a warrior, a hunter and a survivor. For grades 4-7. Additional titles are available in the same series.

Black Beauty

Anna Sewell **RC 41291**

Horse tells of cruel treatment he received in 19th-century England. For grades 4-7. Available through FCPL branches in eAudiobook format.

Redwall

Brian Jacques **RC 29729**

Mice seek legendary weapon to defeat invading rats. Grades 5-8. Available through FCPL branches in CD and eAudiobook format. Additional titles are available in the same series.

Marley: A Dog Like No Other

John Grogan **RC 65296**

Follows Marley's adventures from frisky puppy to sleepy elderly dog. Describes Marley's desire to eat everything in sight, his brief stint as a movie star and his love for his human family. For grades 4-7.

Watership Down

Richard Adams **RC 35730**

Fable about a band of rabbits who seek a new home. For junior and senior high and older readers.

Animal Farm

George Orwell **RC 38959**

This story is a modern fable and allegory and is about a group of animals who throw out the humans from the farm they live on and run it themselves. It starts out well but turns into tyranny. For junior and senior high and older readers.

Books for Adults

In keeping with the "all things animal theme," adults might enjoy these diverse offerings.

Water For Elephants

Sara Gruen **RC 62718**

Veterinary student Jacob Jankowski's world comes crashing down when his parents die in a car accident. Broke, Jacob joins the circus,

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falls for Marlena, a married circus star, and cares for animals like Rosie the Elephant. Available through FCPL branches in CD, Large Print and eAudiobook format.

Doggie Day Care Murder

Laurien Berenson **RC 68343**

Poodle owner and amateur sleuth Melanie Travis scouts out the Pine Ridge Canine Care Center on behalf of a friend who may leave her golden retriever there while she works. When the center's charming co-owner, Steve Pine, is shot to death, Melanie goes undercover to catch the killer.

Dewey: The Small Town Library Cat Who Touched the World

Vicki Myron **RC 67516**

Public library director, Vicki Myron, describes finding a kitten in the bookdrop in 1988. Named Dewey Readmore Books by library staff, the feline became an increasingly famous mascot over the next 19 years.

All Creatures Great and Small

James Herriot **RC 53926**

An English veterinarian reminisces about his work in Yorkshire that began in 1937 when he was fresh out of school. He recalls tending to the farm and house animals and comforting people whose pets died. Available through FCPL branches in eAudiobook format.

Life of Pi

Yann Martell **RC 54940**

Pi Patel, the sole human survivor of a shipwreck, is in a lifeboat with an injured zebra, a hyena, an orangutan and an adult Bengal tiger. Strangely, after 227 days in the Pacific, the boy and the tiger make landfall. Available through FCPL branches in CD and eAudiobook format.

A Lion Called Christian

Anthony Bourke ***RC 68855***

Authors chronicle their relationship with a lion cub they purchased from a London department store in 1969. They recount sharing a flat in Chelsea – where Christian became a celebrity – reintroducing the lion to the African wild under the care of Born Free's George Adamson, and their later, remarkable reunion.

Staff News

Hannah Lederman, a long time volunteer who recently passed away, will be sorely missed by the staff at Access Services. She was a passionate advocate for people with vision loss and her dedication and commitment to provide library services to individuals with disabilities was extraordinary. Hannah's work exemplified excellence in volunteerism.

Access Services held a festive luncheon in April to honor its volunteers and their many contributions.

Rashmi Malhotra, Administrative Assistant, will be joining the staff of the Community Services Board. She will be missed and we wish her well.

**"Books may well be
the only true magic."
– Alice Hoffman**

Subscribe to the Golden Gazette

The *Golden Gazette*, published by the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, is a monthly newspaper dedicated to informing and serving older adults in the greater Fairfax County area. For FREE subscriptions e-mail your contact information (full name, street address, apartment or PO box, city, state, zip code, and phone number) to goldengazette@fairfaxcounty.gov, call 703-324-5633 or send your contact information to:

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Web Corner Two to Explore

Virginia Assistive Technology Resource Center (VATS)

www.vats.org

The center ensures that Virginians of all ages and abilities can acquire the appropriate, affordable assistive and information technologies and services they need to participate in society as active citizens.

Metropolitan Washington Ear

www.washear.org

This service enables visually and physically disabled individuals to "read" (hear) the morning paper, yesterday's paper and selected other publications – any time of day or night, seven days a week.

Contact Us

If you have questions, comments or suggestions concerning the Loud & Clear newsletter, please call Ken Plummer at 703-324-8389. You may also e-mail him at access@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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FREE MATTER for the
Blind and Physically
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