

EDUCATE, INNOVATE, AND INSPIRE "STORIES" - WINTER 2025 MAGAZINE

CHECK IT OUT

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

AUTHORS AMONG US



Playschool Playgroup

Library News

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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

- 12/24 - Christmas Eve
- 12/25 - Christmas Day
- 1/1 - New Year's Day
- 1/20 - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day
- 2/17 - Presidents' Day



From our Assistant Director, Cheryl Nardiello:



Wicomico Public Library has been lending books to our members since 1869. What started as a subscription library has become a library system of three locations, five locker style pickup spots, a full size Bookmobile, a Mobile Learning Lab, and a Reader Van that brings books and service to Wicomico County.

Did you know there's a select team of librarians who purchase books and media for our library? They purchase new and popular materials along with educational resources to curate a healthy, well-rounded collection. Our internal EDI committee is dedicated to making sure our library collections are diverse and serve our whole community. Browse your local branch to find a favorite story or our website's catalog to see new and pre-ordered titles. Reserve a copy of a new release and choose the pickup location that works best for you!

Would you rather have digital books? We're on it! Install the Libby and Hoopla apps and use your library card to read ebooks, download audiobooks, and stream media.

All this is free to our community! If you are new to Wicomico County, stop by your local library to receive your library card today. If you already have a library card, happy reading!

Staff Day 2024



Check it out!

Book Bites

Cozy up with some wintery “Book Bites!” Perfect for those chilly days when you’re craving a quick literary fact and a great winter-themed book recommendation. Whether you’re snowed in or just looking for a frosty read, we’ve got you covered with fun trivia and chilly book suggestions to keep you warm all season long!

- **Chesapeake Charm:** James Michener’s novel “Chesapeake” is a sweeping tale set in Maryland’s very own Eastern Shore, taking you on an epic journey through its history. Perfect for long winter nights!
- **Holiday Hauntings:** Did you know Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” was written in just six weeks? His famous tale of Ebenezer Scrooge has been warming (and chilling) hearts during the holidays for over 175 years.
- **Cold Climates, Hot Mysteries:** Agatha Christie’s “Murder on the Orient Express” takes place on a luxurious train trapped by a snowstorm—making the perfect winter read for fans of whodunits.
- **Frosty Firsts:** Did you know “Frosty the Snowman” was originally written as a children’s song? It’s now a beloved winter character, inspiring books, movies, and endless snowmen every year.
- **A Frosty Fable:** “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe” by C.S. Lewis takes readers to Narnia, where it’s always winter but never Christmas—until Aslan brings the thaw!
- **Home State Hero:** Maryland-born author Nora Roberts, known for her steamy romance novels, also wrote “Winter Rose,” a magical novella perfect for curling up with on a cold night.
- **Tales on Ice:** Hans Christian Andersen, the Danish author behind The “Snow Queen,” inspired countless winter-themed stories—including Disney’s Frozen.
- **The First “Winter Wonderland”:** The famous Christmas song “Winter Wonderland” was written by Richard Bernhard Smith while recovering from tuberculosis and dreaming of snowy walks in the park!
- **The Longest Night:** In George R.R. Martin’s “A Song of Ice and Fire,” winter is an ominous force that lasts for years, with the Starks’ famous warning, “Winter is coming,” serving as a chilling reminder of impending doom.

Sign up for Wowbrary today!

Wicomico Public Library is excited to offer its patrons free “Wowbrary” email alerts that showcase the library’s newest items each week. The alerts feature the latest bestsellers, movies, music CDs, audio books, children’s titles, cookbooks, mysteries, travel guides, health books, science fiction and more purchased by the library.

Wowbrary alerts are free and do not require a library card. Go to www.wowbrary.org to sign up or learn more.

SCAN HERE FOR
WOWBRARY
EMAILS:



DISCOVER YOUR NEXT READ



“Up, Up, Ever Up!”
By Anita Yasuda
Childrens Fiction

Yuko Shimizu’s gorgeous, fantastical illustrations combine with Anita Yasuda’s compelling, uplifting words to vividly convey the indomitable spirit of trailblazing mountaineer Junko Tabei in “Up, Up, Ever Up!”

“The Crash”
By Freida McFadden

Thriller, Mystery



The nightmare she’s running from is nothing compared to where she’s headed. And now she must do whatever it takes to save herself—and her unborn child. A gut-wrenching story of motherhood, survival, and twisted expectations, from #1 New York Times bestselling author Freida McFadden.

BookPage®

— DISCOVER YOUR NEXT GREAT BOOK —

BookPage is a discovery tool for readers, highlighting the best new books across all genres. Available for free, courtesy of our Friends Foundation. Pick up a copy at the Bookstore in the Paul S. Sarbanes Branch!

Community Spotlight

Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center

The Wicomico Public Library is proud to support the Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center, an important institution preserving African-American history in our community. The library is excited to host **Black Local Entrepreneurship: Then and Now** on Saturday, Feb. 22; 2pm - 4pm at the Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center.

This program highlights the rich historical legacy of Black entrepreneurship that has inspired future generations, demonstrates the ongoing struggles against systemic barriers, and celebrates the efforts toward economic empowerment within Black communities. Join us to explore stories of resilience, progress, and the continuous pursuit of economic equality in Wicomico County. Registration is recommended on our online event calendar at <https://qcco.de/bletn>.

The Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center, opened in 1994, is the oldest standing African-American wooden structure on the Eastern Shore of Maryland with the first floor being constructed in 1837 during slavery by 5 freedmen: Levin Houston, George Pollitt, Major Toadvine, George James, and Elijah Pinkett. The building located in Salisbury, Maryland on Broad and Ellen streets was then a part of Worcester County. It was a school, church and gathering place for the enslaved and freed slaves for many years. In February 1882, Frederick Douglas, Marshal of the District of Columbia and great abolitionist, came to Salisbury during the Reconstruction Period and spoke at the new Salisbury Courthouse as a fundraiser for the addition of the second floor. It was a great success for the community.

When US 50 through Salisbury was upgraded (1950s -1960s), the right-of-way purchases and condemnation of buildings were enforced in this area. The Center (Formerly John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church) was in danger of being demolished. Lovingly, Charles and Jeanette Chipman (church members and community educators) purchased the building and donated the property to be used as a cultural center for all people. This historical structure represents a community landmark for Wicomico County and the Eastern Shore. The Center is listed in the Maryland Historical Register and is a part of the City of Salisbury's Art and Entertainment District.



In April 2022, it became the Archive for Racial and Culture Healing (ARCH): Chipman ARCH, the first in the nation.

Today, the Chipman Foundation Inc. continues to maintain the mission of the Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center. It provides an historical venue for all ethnic and diverse community functions such as concerts, weddings, community meetings, youth activities and many more events. Visit the center to enjoy this region's rich and significant cultural history.

Authors Among Us

Spotlight: Our Very Own Award-Winning Children's Author

When Untia joined the Wicomico Public Library in 2010, it was as a volunteer, bringing with her over 15 years of teaching experience from Delaware, where she had inspired Kindergarten and 6th-grade history students. Her passion for helping children and communities has since evolved into a multifaceted career that has touched the lives of many, not only in her role at the library but also as a celebrated children's book author.

A Heart for Service

Untia's journey at the library began with small steps, volunteering her time and expertise to support the community. Just two years after starting, she became the assistant director of the ESL Learning Lab, a grant-funded initiative. "Working with English learners was so fulfilling, watching their confidence grow with every new word," she recalls. But when the grant ended, Untia didn't slow down—she took on roles in circulation and served as an AmeriCorps volunteer for Pittsville's after-school program until 2014.

By 2015, Untia had found her true calling as the volunteer coordinator, a position she still holds today. "I love serving my volunteers," she says. "Watching them learn new skills and gain work experience is so rewarding, especially when they may not have had the opportunity otherwise." Whether working with community partners like DORS or the Department of Justice, or helping local students fulfill service hours for graduation, Untia's impact has been wide-reaching. She also manages the day-to-day operations of the library's bookstore and handles book sales and event décor, wearing many hats with ease.

A Passion for Storytelling

Untia's love for storytelling started at a young age. At just eight years old, her paternal grandmother gave her a journal, sparking her lifelong passion for writing poetry and short stories. "Writing was my escape," she reflects. "It was a way to experience the world through my eyes, without judgment, and create a space that was all my own."

In May 2023, Untia's dream of becoming a published author became a reality with her first children's book, *Aniya's Journey*. The story, about self-discovery and self-love, encourages children to embrace their uniqueness and believe in their power to change the world. "My goal with my books is to help children build



a healthy relationship with who they are," she explains. "If they can love themselves, they can face any challenge."

Her second book, *Miko's Love*, is set to be published in late 2025, and the anticipation is already building. Untia's work has earned her recognition, with *Aniya's Journey* being nominated for the 2025 Coretta Scott King Award, a prestigious honor celebrating books that affirm African American culture and values.

An Award-Winning Author and Advocate

Untia's talents extend beyond writing books. In 2023, she won the Outstanding Employee award for her incredible work with Friends of the Library and the volunteers she supports. That same year, her powerful poem, "Little Black King Gunned Down," won a literary award and was published in *Exemplary Poetry*. In 2024, she earned the Eloise Greenfield Children's Poetry Advocate of the Year Prize, further solidifying her status as a literary force to be reckoned with.

As Untia continues to inspire both children and adults through her roles at the library and in her writing, one thing is certain: her impact on the Wicomico community, and beyond, is undeniable.

Beanstack Winter Reading Challenges

Embrace the magic of stories this winter! Enjoy monthly challenges like the Reading Wrap-Up and the Be a Reading Machine Winter Challenge, followed by For the Love of Reading Challenge. Looking ahead? Tackle our new 40 Book Genre Reading Challenge in 2025 to discover new stories all year long. Get started today at wicomicolibrary.beanstack.org!



PLUS, DON'T MISS OUT ON EXISTING READING CHALLENGES!



WICOMICOLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG

GENRE CHALLENGE



Paul S. Sarbanes Branch

(410) 749-3612
Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

MON: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30,
1/6, 1/13, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10 & 2/24;
10:30AM - 11:30AM

Calling all children ages 0-5 and their caregivers! Join us for Preschool Playgroup every Monday morning for a fun-filled session of free play and social interaction. Young children can explore, learn, and build social skills through play with their peers.

ROBOCODERS*

MON: 12/2, 12/16, 1/6 & 2/3;
4:30PM - 6PM

RoboCoders: a mashup of LEGO and coding. In each session, we'll tackle a LEGO Robotics challenge and then explore coding, with or without LEGO. If you're a kid who loves building or coding, want to learn about either, or want to meet and beat challenges, you can be a RoboCoder!

STEM TIME*

WED, 12/4, 12/18, 1/15, 2/5 & 2/19;
4PM - 5:30PM

Bring your curiosity and imagination to play with Sphero Indi and Bolt, Snap Circuits, littleBits, and more! We'll experiment and tinker, using critical thinking, teamwork, and communication skills to code, build, and have fun!

STORYTIME

Thu: 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2, 1/9,
1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20 & 2/27;
10:30AM - 11:30AM

Join us every Thursday morning for a delightful hour of stories, songs, and interactive fun designed for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers.

HOMESCHOOL MAKER MONDAY*

MON: 12/9, 12/23, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10 &
2/24; 2PM - 3:30PM

Explore science, technology, engineering, art, and math through fun activities at Homeschool Maker Monday! All homeschool students ages 6 to 11 are invited to join us the second and fourth Monday of each month to learn all about STEAM! Registration is suggested.



PAWS TO READ

MON: 12/9, 12/23, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10 &
2/24; 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Paws to Read allows your child to read aloud to a dog for 5 - 7 minutes. A volunteer will be present during the entire session. This activity helps build reading confidence in children while they are relaxing and having fun.

MINI-MONTESSORI FOR 2 - 6 YEAR OLD'S

WED: 12/11, 1/8, 1/22, 2/12 & 2/26;
10AM - 3PM

Montessori play is purposeful play that mimics real-life tasks. It focuses on mindfulness during activities and focusing on the task at hand. There is no "right way" to interact in a Montessori setting. The goal is for children to independently interact and come up with their own creative solutions using trial and error.

AUTHOR VISIT WITH LOCAL CHILDREN'S AUTHOR MEGAN CARNEY

SAT, DEC. 7; 11AM - 12:30PM

Join us for a visit with local author, Megan Carney, as she shares her new children's book "The Lodestar League." This book is ideal for children ages 6-11. The visit is a perfect opportunity for children of all ages.

SEW A SOFTIE*

SAT: 12/21, 1/18 & 2/15; 2PM - 4PM

Learn how to sew in this monthly program for kids ages 6 and up. You will leave each session with a complete project; come to one or all! We'll cover basic hand-sewing, including quick repairs like replacing a button, and using sewing machines. Ages 6-12.

DANCE PARTY EXTRAVAGANZA

FRI, JAN. 3; 1PM - 3PM

Get ready to groove! Join us for a Dance Party Extravaganza designed especially for ages 0-5 and their caregivers. This energetic event will have everyone dancing to their favorite tunes, and having a blast!

TEDDY BEAR TEA PARTY*

FRI, JAN. 31; 1PM - 3PM

Join us for Teddy Bear Tea Party, where toddlers and their favorite stuffed friends will create lasting memories! Attendees are encouraged to wear tea-party attire and bring their favorite stuffie (you too, grown-ups!).



*Registration is required. For more information or to register, visit the Events Calendar at www.wicomicolibrary.org/events

Paul S. Sarbanes Branch

(410) 749-3612
Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

GIRLS WHO CODE CLUB - 3RD TO 5TH GRADE*

THU: 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/6 & 3/13; 5PM - 6PM

Girls Who Code Clubs are spaces where girls can join our sisterhood of supportive peers and use Computer Science to change the world. Our 3rd-5th Grade Clubs help build the foundational skills and understanding of computer science concepts and sisterhood through a reading discussion and related activities. No prior coding knowledge or experience is needed! This club will meet in person on Thursdays from 5:00 to 6:00pm. There will be ten classes beginning January 9 and ending March 13. Space is limited. Grades 3-5.

CHILDREN & TEEN PROGRAMS

ROBOCODERS*

MON: 12/2, 12/16, 1/6 & 2/3;
4:30PM - 6PM

RoboCoders: a mashup of LEGO and coding. In each session, we'll tackle a LEGO Robotics challenge and then explore coding, with or without LEGO. If you're a kid who loves building or coding, want to learn about either, or want to meet and beat challenges, you can be a RoboCoder!



* - Registration is required.

For more information or to register, visit the Events Calendar at www.wicomicolibrary.org/events.

CRAFT CLUB

FRI: 12/6, 1/3 & 2/7; 3PM - 4:30PM

Come join us for an exciting afternoon crafting and let your imagination run wild! This program is open to children of all ages and supplies will be provided.



JUST FOR TEENS

SNACK ATTACK

TUE, 12/3, 1/7 & 2/4; 5:PM - 6PM

Join us for a flavor-packed adventure where we will explore international movies and snack boxes!

ANIME AND MANGA CLUB

TUE: 12/10, 1/14 & 2/11;
5:30PM - 6:30PM

Anime and Manga Club members meet the second Tuesday of each month to talk about manga and watch a member selected anime movie/show. Open to middle and high school students.

TIKTOK MADE ME MAKE IT*

THU: 12/12, 12/26, 1/9, 1/23, 2/13 & 2/27;
5PM - 6PM

Designed to ignite the creativity and DIY spirit in teens aged 12-18; and inspired by the latest TikTok trends, this initiative offers fun and engaging DIY projects. Each program will supply you with all the materials and instructions needed to complete a trendy, TikTok-inspired craft.

TEEN ACTION BOARD (TAB) MEETING*

TUE: 12/17, 1/21 & 2/18;
5:30PM - 6:30PM

Attend in person or on Zoom! Registration is required. All middle and high school students are invited to our TAB (Teen Action Board) meeting. TAB meetings are a forum where students' opinions and suggestions are heard. TAB members earn one service learning hour for each meeting attended.

ADULTING 101: LIFE SKILLS FOR TEENS*

WED, JAN. 22; 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Adulting 101: Life Skills for Teens is a hands-on program designed to equip teenagers with essential real-world skills—from financial literacy and basic home maintenance to effective communication and decision-making—preparing them for independence and success in adulthood.

This session will focus on basic sewing and mending.



CROCHET 101*

TUE: 1/28 & 2/25; 5:30PM - 6:30PM

If you'd like to learn to crochet and are in middle or high school, join us on the 4th Tuesday of each month! We'll use tutorials from the library resource, Creativebug, and one-on-one instruction to start you crocheting for fun and to make scarves for our community.

Paul S. Sarbanes Branch

(410) 749-3612
Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

ADULT PROGRAMS

COMPUTER TUTOR*

MON, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30,
1/6, 1/13, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, & 2/24;
10:30AM - 11:30AM

Learn the basics in our Computer Tutor series! Self-paced, hands-on learning for just the basics, including: Getting Started with a Computer: the essential functions of a mouse & keyboard, Basic Search: what is a search engine, Navigating a Website, and Intro to Email.



ADULT YOGA WITH SOUL YOGA*

WED: 12/4, 12/18, 1/15, 1/29, 2/5 & 2/19;
4:30PM - 5:30PM

Come join Soul Yoga's instructor Lauren Gilmore for a free adult yoga class! Participants will learn the fundamentals of yoga while exploring how it can benefit them. Grab a friend or family member to experience and learn together. *Participants are to bring their own towel or yoga mat.*



COFFEE CLUB

FRI: 12/6, 12/20, 1/3, 1/17, 2/7 & 2/21;
10:30AM - 11:30AM

Let's talk books! Join us for coffee and discussion. Coffee and cups provided, but feel free to bring your own. We will be meeting on the main floor.

THE SALISBURY SALON*

SAT, 12/7; 1:30PM - 3PM

The Sarbanes branch presents "The Salisbury Salon" -- an open literary, artistic, and philosophical circle. A novel take on Enlightenment-period literary salons, The Salisbury Salon aims to be a welcoming space for ALL to engage in hearty discussion and activities, share personal projects, and enjoy good company over refreshments.



SUNDAY SCRABBLE & MORE

SUN: 12/8, 12/22, 1/12, 1/26, 2/9 & 2/23;
1:30PM - 3PM

Stop by the Sarbanes Branch for an afternoon of wordsmithing with the classic game Scrabble. Boards and dictionary will be provided for use, but feel free to bring your own, too! If Scrabble isn't your game, try one of our other classic games (Checkers, Chess, or Parcheesi).

ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT*

THU: 12/12, 1/9 & 2/13; 7PM - 9PM
At the Brick Room

Think you know it all? Come prove it at The Brick Room, where an adult trivia night will be hosted! Participants are required to be at least twenty-one years of age. Drinks will be available for purchase. Registration is highly recommended.

BUILDING OUR LIBRARY TOGETHER: COMMUNITY DISCUSSION SERIES

THU: 12/12 & 1/9; 6PM - 7PM

Join us for a collaborative discussion where your ideas and input will shape the future of our library. Your voice matters!

Happy Holidays

MAKE LASER CUT CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS!*

SAT, DEC. 7; 10:30AM - 12:30PM

Are you interested in learning more about laser cutters? Come out and get a demonstration of how to laser cut wooden Christmas ornaments. We will have some ornaments already cut, so everyone can paint an ornament to take home! Located in Meeting Room 8. All ages!

3D PRINT SNOWFLAKE ORNAMENTS*

WED, DEC. 11; 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Learn the basics of 3D printing and design by creating your own unique snowflake! **Open to children ages 6-18.**

BLACK LOCAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: THEN AND NOW*

SAT, FEB. 22; 2PM - 4PM

At Charles Chipman Cultural Center
The Charles Chipman Cultural Center and the Wicomico Public Library are excited to present a program showcasing Black-owned businesses, past and present (1950-Present). Join us to explore stories of resilience, progress, and the continuous pursuit of economic equality in Wicomico County.

* - Registration is required. For more information or to register, visit the Events Calendar at www.wicomicolibrary.org/events.

Centre Branch

(410) 546-5397

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm

Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Sunday: CLOSED

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

ALL ABOARD THE POLAR EXPRESS*

MON, DEC. 2; 4PM - 5PM

Join us as we read the story of "The Polar Express" and experience the wonder of Christmas through the sound of a bell. In this program, kids will get to craft their own jingle bell to take home as a reminder to always believe in the magic of the season.



HOLIDAY SUN CATCHERS*

WED, DEC. 4; 6PM - 6:45PM

Make a fun and festive sun catcher and bring some light into your space! These sun catchers are a simple craft that can help your little one get into the holiday spirit!



WATER COLOR SNOWFLAKES*

FRI, JAN. 3; 4PM - 4:45PM

Come explore the fun of water on salt and make your very own unique snowflake designs!

* - Registration is required.

For more information or to register, visit the Events Calendar at www.wicomicolibrary.org/events.

DIY SNOWSTORM IN A JAR*

MON, JAN. 6; 5PM - 6PM

Prepare to make your very own snowstorm in a jar! This exciting activity perfect for kids ages 6-11, teaches kids fundamental chemistry concepts, such as chemical reactions, while blending hands-on learning with creativity.

PINE CONE DINO*

FRI, JAN. 29; 5PM - 6PM

Make a cool Dinosaur out of cardstock and a pinecone! This fun activity will make your kiddos roar with excitement!



SNOWFLAKE LUMINARIES*

FRI, DEC. 20; 3PM - 4:30PM

Have a touch of winter in your life with a snowflake luminary! Ages 6-18

EVERYONE



VALENTINE COASTERS*

SAT, FEB. 8; 2PM - 3PM

Come make a super easy and unique gift for your valentines! These coasters will be a gift that lasts for years to come!

ADULT PROGRAMS

COFFEE CLUB

THU: 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, & 2/27; 10:30AM - 12PM

Stop by Centre Branch on Thursday mornings and join the Coffee Club. Enjoy coffee, tea, or hot chocolate, meet new friends, and chat with others to start your day right! Help us save waste; bring a mug!

SWITCH BOWLING

THU: 12/12, 12/26, 1/9, 1/23, 2/6 & 2/20; 5PM - 6:30PM

Come bowl with us at the library..... Catch a fun game on the Nintendo Switch just like Wii Bowling! Easy on the joints and big on the excitement... Can you bowl that perfect game? Or beat last week's best score?

MEMORY LAB AT CENTRE BRANCH



The Wicomico Public Library is excited to introduce our new Memory Lab, where you can preserve your personal history! This free, self-service space lets you digitize your old photos, videos, and documents. Whether it's 8mm film, VHS, cassette tapes, or letters, you can convert them to digital format and create your own personal archive. Keep your memories alive for generations to come. Stay tuned for more information on how to get started!

Pittsville Branch

(410) 835-2353

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm

Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Sunday: CLOSED

ORIGAMI WITH KRISTIE*

FRI: 12/6, 1/3 & 2/7; 4PM - 4:45PM

The first Friday of the Month come make a fun origami craft with Kristie at the Pittsville Branch!



BOOK BINGO!*

WED: 12/11, 1/8 & 2/12; 5PM - 7PM

Come join us for a night of bingo FUN at the Pittsville library! The winner of each round will get to pick a special bingo or library themed sticker, handmade by our wonderful staff!

HOW TO GET STARTED BOOK JOURNALING*

THU: JAN. 2; 5PM - 6PM

Are you always forgetting what books you've read? Do you wish you had kept track of your thoughts on a book? Are you curious how long and how many books you read in a year? Why not start a reading journal! In this class we'll go over what a "reading journal" entails, different ways people create them, and give you the inspiration and supplies to get started!

CRAFTS PROGRAMS

HOLIDAY STRING ART CARDS*

WED, DEC. 4; 5PM - 6:30PM

There are so many wonderful reasons to send a loved one a greeting card during December, and what's more special than making it yourself? Join us as we use string and cardstock to make our very own cards, with plenty of blank space inside for you to add your own message!

MAKE YOUR OWN "WORRY PET"!*

THU, DEC. 19; 5PM - 6:30PM

This time of year can be very stressful. Why not make your own worry pet? A worry pet is a little creature made from soft fabric and filled with weighted beads. It's the perfect size for your palm, and makes a great stress fidget!

SEASONAL SCRAPBOOKERS*

TUE: 12/17, 1/21 & 2/18; 5PM - 6:30PM

Join us every month as we create a seasonal scrapbook layout together based on that month! All supplies will be provided, you'll just need to bring your creativity and imagination.

YARN ART PAINTING!*

THU, JAN. 23; 5PM - 6:30PM

Come "paint" your own landscape using yarn! Yarn painting involves sticking cut pieces of yarn on a canvas to create an intricate and textured "painting". We'll have everything you'll need to make this calming and satisfying craft.

VALENTINE HEART HANDWARMERS*

THU, FEB. 6; 5PM - 6:30PM

Come on down to learn how to sew these heart handwarmers that will warm both the hands and heart of your valentine (or keep them for yourself, we deserve some self love too).



THUMBPRINT FRIENDSHIP ROCKS*

FRI, FEB. 14; 3PM - 4PM

Let's decorate some rocks using our own thumbprint! We'll make hearts using our prints and then draw cute or silly faces on them. They'll make a perfect little gift to brighten someone's day.

STAINED GLASS BIRTH FLOWERS*

THU, FEB. 27; 5PM - 6:30PM

Did you know each month has its own unique birth flower? Come join us as we combine faux glass art with this fascinating cultural phenomenon and turn our own birth flowers into art!

ADULT PROGRAMS

MAHJONG FOR BEGINNERS

WED: 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19 & 2/26; 2PM - 3PM

Come learn to play American Mahjong with us! It's a fun and great tile game for everyone. If you enjoy puzzles or games like Rummy, Canasta, or Bridge you will find Mahjong a wonderful new game to learn this winter.



HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR SNAKE: EASY SEWING CLASS WITH KRISTIE*

SAT: JAN. 25; 2PM - 4PM

Come to this beginner hand sewing class with easy embroidery. This month in honor of the Lunar New Year being the Year of the Snake we are making a cute little felt snake that can be made into little ornaments, magnets or part of a cute little display.

HAPPY LITTLE HORSE: EASY SEWING CLASS WITH KRISTIE*

SAT: FEB. 15; 2PM - 4PM

Come to this beginner hand sewing class with easy embroidery. This month we are making a happy little horse that can be made into little ornaments, magnets or part of a cute little display.

Mobile Services

(410) 749-3612 ext. 804
mobileservices@wicomico.org

COMMUNITY COMPUTER LAB

Need a place to study or do some work? Just need to use a computer for a short task? Stop by the Mobile Learning Lab!

Current stops available:

- Hebron - 12/6, 1/3 & 2/7; 10AM - 12PM
- Willards Lions Community Center - 12/13, 1/10 & 2/14; 10AM - 12PM
- Sharptown Town Hall - 12/20, 1/17 & 2/21; 10AM - 12PM
- Fruitland - 12/27, 1/24 & 2/28; 10AM - 12PM

View the current schedule at: tinyurl.com/wplmobilelab

LIBRARY LOCKER LOCATIONS

Request pickup of library items at these alternate locations:

- inside the lobby of the YMCA
- inside the Centre at Salisbury Mall by the Centre Branch Library
- outside of Sharptown Town Hall
- outside of WestSide Community Center in Bivalve
- outside of Paul S. Sarbanes Branch in Downtown Salisbury

READER VAN SERVICE

Have a local daycare and want supplement material? Our Reader Van is a transit van that brings educational materials to daycares in the form of curriculum-centered-themed totes and storytimes.

TABLETOP GAME CLUB

WED: 12/4, 12/18, 1/8, 1/22, 2/5 & 2/19;
3:30PM - 5:30PM

Parkside High School parking lot

Do you need a break from technology? Do you like Scrabble, Uno, etc.? Come join us in playing tabletop games with your friends. We will be parked at Parkside High, but all middle and high schoolers are welcome!



LEARN ABOUT MAGIC THE GATHERING!*

SAT, DEC. 7; 1PM - 3PM

Centre at Salisbury parking lot

Are you interested in learning about the Magic the Gathering Card Game? Come and join us to learn the game. Registration is required.. All registrants will go home with some free game cards. We will be parked at the Centre at Salisbury near the old Macy's.



JACKBOX GAME DAY

SAT, JAN. 18; 1PM - 2:30PM

Winterplace Park

Come visit the Mobile Learning Lab at Winterplace Park to join in and play a collection of fun party games using JackBox Party.



STEM TIME WITH SNAP CIRCUITS

FRI, JAN. 31; 4PM - 5PM

Cope Bennett Park in Sharptown

Do you like STEM activities? Come to Cope Bennett Park on the Mobile Learning Lab and learn electronics, and you can build a cool project with our snap circuits.

E-GAMING DAY

MON, FEB. 3; 1PM - 3PM

YMCA parking lot

Are you a video gamer? Try out our tech gaming options on board the Mobile Learning Lab (parked at the YMCA)! We will have our Nintendo Switch, VR headset, tablets, and computers available for use.



COMPUTER HELP FOR SENIORS

Tue, Feb. 11; 1PM - 2:30PM

Summer's Gate Community

Do you need a little help with your cell phone or computer? Need help with QR codes or to spot computer frauds? Come visit the Mobile Learning Lab and let us point you in the right direction.

Services and Support



Help Build Brighter Futures with Project READ

At Wicomico Public Library, we believe that literacy is the foundation for a brighter future, and Project READ is at the heart of this mission. This free, one-on-one tutoring program is designed to support adults in improving essential reading, writing, and basic math skills. Whether it's advancing in their careers or gaining confidence in everyday tasks, Project READ is here to empower individuals on their journey to success.

We can't do it alone, though—and that's where you come in! We're looking for passionate volunteers to join our team as literacy coaches.

Interested in making a difference? Contact DeMyra Harvey, Project READ Coordinator, at 410-749-3612 ext. 159. No prior teaching experience is required—training and ongoing support will be provided to ensure you're ready to inspire change.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER

Empowering Our Community Together

At Wicomico Public Library, we believe that everyone has a story, and every story deserves the opportunity to grow. That's why we're proud to offer the Community Support Center at our Paul S. Sarbanes branch—a place where individuals and families can access the resources they need to succeed and create brighter futures.

Whether your story involves finding a new job, accessing government services, or connecting with local organizations for housing and healthcare, the Community Support Center is here to help you along the way. Our Center also features a donation area, providing clothing and food to support our most vulnerable neighbors.

But the Center is more than just resources. We offer a variety of programs to help you write the next chapter of your life. Join us every Monday morning from 10:30am - 11:30am for our Computer Tutor class. This hands-on, self-paced workshop is perfect for anyone looking to begin their journey into the digital world.

At Wicomico Public Library, we believe in the power of community and stories—let's create new ones together.



PASSPORTS SERVICES AT SARBANES BRANCH!

Plan Your Next Adventure: Passport Services Now Available!

Whether you're dreaming of exploring new destinations or just need to renew your passport, Wicomico Public Library is here to help! We're excited to announce that passport services are now available at both the Paul S. Sarbanes Branch and the Centre Branch located in the Salisbury Mall.

Our team of friendly, knowledgeable staff will walk you through the process, making sure you have everything you need for a smooth passport experience. With flexible hours—including weekends—and the convenience of taking your passport photo on-site, we make preparing for your next trip easy!

Appointments are required for passport services, and we recommend calling ahead to ensure you have all the necessary documents. Reach us at the Sarbanes Branch at 410-749-3612 or the Centre Branch at 410-546-5397. You can also visit travel.state.gov to fill out your application in advance. Start your next chapter today—your next adventure awaits!

MEETING ROOMS

The Paul S. Sarbanes branch offers meeting rooms for public use. These rooms are perfect for various events, including business meetings, community gatherings, and educational workshops.

If you have questions or need to request a room within three days' notice, please get in touch with the admin office at 410-749-3612 x110.



Virtual Programs and Online Services

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
JEFF POST



WED, DEC. 4 TH, 2024
AT 2 PM

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
LAURA DAVE



WED, DEC. 11TH, 2024
AT 2 PM

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
TJ KLUNE



WED, JAN. 15TH, 2025
AT 7PM

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
SETH FISHMAN



TUE, JAN. 28TH, 2025
AT 1PM

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
WAUBGESHIG RICE



TUE, FEB. 11TH, 2025
AT 7 PM

AN AUTHOR TALK WITH
CLARA BINGHAM



THU, MAR. 20TH, 2025
AT 2 PM

Enjoy a range of talks
from bestselling authors
and thought leaders.

Watch live to have your
questions answered or
enjoy the recorded
program at your leisure.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
AND TO REGISTER:



SCAN ME

MORE VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL BOOK DISCUSSION

TUE: 12/17; 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Please join the Virtual Book Club from the comfort of your home for a relaxed discussion. Come prepared to share book(s) that you're reading or have recently read. Registration is required.

Friends Foundation



Wicomico Public Library Unveils Plans for New Branch in Parsonsburg

On October 15th, the Wicomico Public Library drew an enthusiastic crowd to the Parsonsburg Fire Hall for an exciting unveiling of plans for a new branch, set to replace the Pittsville Library. Community members filled the venue as Library Director Seth Hershberger shared the innovative designs for the new facility, which aims to better serve residents on the east side of Wicomico County.

Among the highlights of the evening was a presentation by architect David Quillen, who discussed the library's commitment to sustainability. Community members were invited to see the plans and designs for the branch close-up, and to ask questions of the director and the architect.

Hershberger also welcomed several notable figures to the podium, including Friends Foundation Chair Marty Neat, County Council member Joe Holloway, Library Board chair and Friends Foundation vice-chair Charles "Chip" Dashiell, Esq., and Wicomico County Executive Julie Giordano. They each expressed their support for the new branch and commended Hershberger for making the long-awaited dream of a permanent physical library on the east side a reality.

During his address, Hershberger underscored the importance of community involvement,

encouraging attendees to become members of the library's Friends Foundation. He highlighted opportunities for sponsorships, which include personalized bricks, and the naming rights for various building features. Some naming rights have already been secured for key areas within the branch, such as the multipurpose room and the children's section.

Looking ahead, Hershberger announced that the new branch is anticipated to open by summer, with plans for a special reception for new Friends Foundation members that will allow them an exclusive first look before the grand opening to the public.

A second design unveiling event is scheduled to take place in January at the Pittsville Fire Hall, with the date to be confirmed soon.

Those wishing to sponsor a feature of the new library branch in Parsonsburg can reach out to Seth Hershberger at shershberger@wicomico.org or by phone at 443-523-2723.



FRIENDS FOUNDATION OF THE WICOMICO PUBLIC LIBRARY

SAVE THE DATE

**TRIVIA NIGHT
FUNDRAISER
JAN. 25 AT 6:30PM**

**SPRING BOOK SALE
APRIL 24TH - 26TH, 2025**

BECOME A MEMBER!

The Friends of Wicomico Public Library provides support for this necessary public institution.

Being a Friend shows your commitment to the Library: its resources, services, and educational opportunities.

Visit our Friends of the Library website for the current membership levels and perks available!

To join securely online, visit qrco.de/wplfriends or scan the QR code:



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO BECOME A
FRIENDS MEMBER
OR SUPPORT THE
WICOMICO LIBRARY BY
DONATING TODAY!**

Paul S. Sarbanes Branch Downtown Salisbury

(410) 749-3612

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

Centre Branch Centre At Salisbury

(410) 546-5397

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: CLOSED

Pittsville Branch 34372 Old Ocean City Rd

(410) 835-2353

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: CLOSED

Mobile Services

(410) 749-3612 ext. 804
mobileservices@wicomico.org

GET A LIBRARY CARD TODAY!



WICOMICO PUBLIC LIBRARY SOCIAL MEDIA

