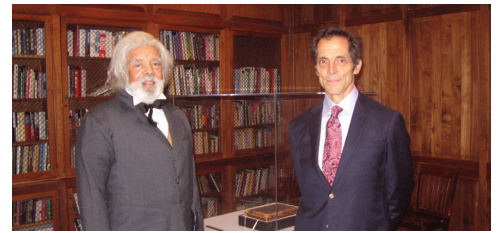




ANNUAL REPORT 2015





TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

2015

Board of Trustees
and Director



Barbara Lane
PRESIDENT

Robert T. Horvath
DIRECTOR

James Dawson

Robert Drysdale

Lizette Hannegan

Linda DePrima

Elizabeth Beggins

Seth Beatty

Kathy Harig

Michael Silver

Melanie Chapple

Donna Matthews

www.tcfl.org



STATISTICS 2015

TOTAL CARDHOLDERS 30,624

CIRCULATION 354,493

Easton 193,117

St. Michaels 36,321

Database use and downloads 125,055

COLLECTION SIZE 114,706 items

LOANS FROM OTHER LIBRARIES 4,740

REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED AND PEOPLE INSTRUCTED 32,857

Easton Adult 6,850

Easton Children 3,840

Maryland Room 20,090

St. Michaels 2,161

PUBLIC ACCESS INTERNET COMPUTERS 49

CHILDREN'S COMPUTERS 5

VISITORS 169,951

PUBLIC COMPUTER AND WIRELESS USERS 63,952

PROGRAMS

Children (*Ages Birth through Five*) 255 Programs with 6,547 Attendees

Children (*School Age*) 66 Programs with 1,913 Attendees

Adult, Teen, Family Programs 127 Programs with 4,269 Attendees

Total 448 Programs with 12,729 Attendees

TOTAL NUMBER OF STAFF (FTE) 21

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS 90

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS 8,222

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS ROI (*Valued at \$23.07/hr) \$189,682.00**

**Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer Time for Maryland*

www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time

MAIN LIBRARY

100 West Dover Street
Easton, MD 21601

ST. MICHAELS BRANCH

106 Fremont Street
St. Michaels, MD 21663



HIGHLIGHTS 2015

Among Friends with Sleuths, Lies, & Alibis

In January, the Friends of Talbot County Free Library (TCFL) had their second annual fundraising event. Guests enjoyed wine and hors d'oeuvres with Nick & Nora Charles, Nancy Drew, James Bond, Nero Wolfe, and Phryne Fisher. Wine and great food came from many of the best local restaurants. Guests also were given a chance to win door prizes provided by local businesses. The fundraiser was a great success thanks to the hard work of our Friends.

CTE: Talbot County Public Schools (TCPS) is one of the library's most important community partners. Early in 2015, as part of a statewide initiative, the library, TCPS, and the Maryland State Department of Education's Divisions of Career and College Readiness and Library Development and Services worked together on a new public awareness campaign focusing on the Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs at the county's public high schools. The kickoff event included presentations by CTE students, an exhibit of artwork from the Graphic Arts students, and delicious food and beverages created by students in the Culinary Arts program. CTE presentations included representatives from the Graphic Arts, Business, Health and Biosciences, Construction, Environmental Science, Culinary Arts, Agriculture, and Automotive Engineering programs at Easton High School. Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, Lillian M. Lowery was among the state and community leaders in attendance. The kickoff event was followed by a series of presentations at both library branches spotlighting the CTE programs offered in Talbot County Public Schools, and featured Career and Technology Education student presentations and demonstrations. A continuation of this partnership is planned for 2016.

Author Bryan Collier Visit

On April 14, thanks to funding from Eastern Shore Regional Library, the library hosted a program at Easton Elementary by author and illustrator Bryan Collier. Collier, a native of Pocomoke City, Maryland, is a nationally celebrated artist and illustrator. His talks focused on the importance of visual literacy, learning to read a visual narrative, and the stories behind some of his books.

Kaleidoscope

In June, TCFL had its third Maker's Space and kickoff to the children's and teen's summer reading program. This year the library celebrated local heroes. Local heroes on hand included firefighters, law enforcement officers, veterans, first responders, CASA, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Judy Center, Riverkeepers, Pets on Wheels, Mental Health Association, and members of the Frederick Douglass Honor Society. The Easton Volunteer Fire department brought a fire truck to the festival, Emergency Services brought an ambulance, and the police and sheriff's departments each brought one of their squad cars. Additional entertainment included the Kids on the Block puppets, Make-A-Book, crafts, therapy dogs, and a scavenger hunt. There was live music and free food (hot dogs, lemonade, popcorn, and sno-cones). Over 800 people attended Kaleidoscope.

This event was sponsored by the Friends of TCFL.

Frederick Douglass Day

On Sept. 26, TCFL partnered with the Frederick Douglass Honor Society and the Town of Easton. The library hosted the Children's Village and two keynote speakers: Harvard University professor and national award-winning author John Stauffer; and Mary Elliott, specialist at Smithsonian's newest museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Both lectures and the Children's Village were very well attended. There were more than 1,100 visitors in the library that day. Another highlight was the display of Frederick Douglass' bible in the library. It was on loan from the National Park Service. This is the second year that TCFL has been a host for Frederick Douglass Day.

The Boys in the Boat Author at Chesapeake College

On September 28, Daniel James Brown, author of this year's One Maryland One Book, *The Boys in the Boat*, spoke at Chesapeake College. TCFL was one of the sponsors of this well-attended program. One Maryland One Book is the Maryland Humanities Council program in which people across the state read the same book at the same time. TCFL also hosted a number of book discussions on *Boys in the Boat*.

St. Michaels Branch Library Improvements

Thanks to Talbot County Council, the St. Michaels Branch now has new audiovisual equipment for its very busy meeting room. Other improvements include: an enclosed bookdrop, a new security and fire alarm system, new sliding doors, new bamboo flooring for the meeting room, and a replacement for a large part of the HVAC system. These improvements were much needed and are greatly appreciated.

TCFL's 90th Anniversary

The Talbot County Free Library celebrated its 90th anniversary on Oct. 15 with a number of special events.

The day began with a Friends' Brown Bag program featuring Bill Peak reading from his new book of collected library columns, *Adventures in Shelving*. The book was published by the Board of Trustees as part of the library's 90th anniversary celebration.

The main event got underway at 4:00 p.m. and included guest speakers, an exhibit on the library's history, refreshments, and live music by Bird Dog and the Road Kings. Those in attendance included library employees and volunteers, members of the public and a large group of children from the Multicultural Center. Speakers included Barbara Lane, President of TCFL's Board of Trustees; Robert Horvath, Director of the Library; and representatives from County Council, Maryland General Assembly, and Senator Barbara Mikulski's office, who also presented citations of recognition for Bob Horvath's seventeen years of service as Director.

Bob Horvath expressed his gratitude for all who attended and stated that the library would not be there if not for the strong support from the county and state.

"We are very blessed here with the library services that we have," he said. "It's a wonderful place to live and we have wonderful people here and we have a wonderful library."

This event was funded by the Friends of TCFL.

COLLECTIONS AND PUBLIC SERVICES 2015

Collections

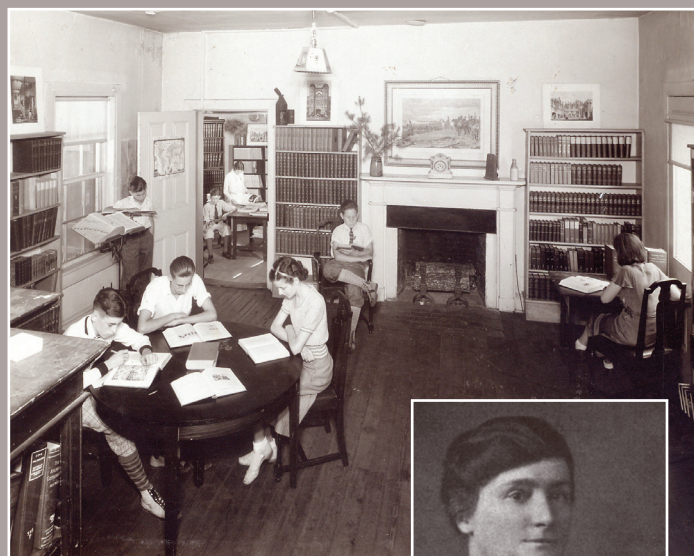
Adult and Teen Books	64,737
Children's Books	37,530
Audiobooks	3,466
DVDs	7,812
Downloadable Ebooks and Audiobooks (All Ages)	54,709
Newspaper and Magazine Subscriptions	176
E-Magazine Subscription Titles	311
Public Computers	49
Children's Educational and Bi-lingual Computers	5
24/7 Research Databases and Online Tutoring Services	26
Music CDs	1,684
Children's Puppet Pack and Book Kits	208
Science Kits	16

Public Services

- Audiobooks
- Bi-lingual Children's Collection
- Book Discussions
- Business and Marketing Research
- Community Art Exhibits
- Concerts
- Craft Programs for All Ages
- Early Literacy Materials
- Ebooks
- Homework Help
- Instruction
- Job Search Assistance
- Large Print Book Collection
- Law and Government Information
- Loans from Public and Academic Libraries
- Maryland Room
- Meeting Room Space for Community Organizations
- Outreach to Schools and Childcare Centers
- Outreach to Senior Centers
- Printing, Photocopying, Scanning to email
- Programming for All Ages
- Public Computers and Wi-Fi
- Quiet Study Rooms
- Referral to Other Agencies
- Research Assistance
- Science Displays
- Spanish Language Collection
- Teacher Cards
- 24/7 Online Classes, Research and Tutoring Services

TCFL CELEBRATES ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY!

October 15, 2015 marked the 90th anniversary of the Talbot County Free Library. Mrs. Caroline Burnite Walker, a retired children's librarian, along with a number of dedicated volunteers, organized the Talbot County Free Library Association in 1921. The Association raised more than \$4,000 and in 1925 rented two rooms in the Tred Avon Building at 11 S. Washington Street. TCFL opened its doors to the public on October 15 with 800 books. The library was a great success. By the end of 1925 it had 616 registered cardholders and more than 2,000 books in its collection. TCFL was one of the first county public library systems on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Today, TCFL has more than 30,000 cardholders and circulates more than 350,000 items a year. The library operates out of two branches and has an excellent collection that includes both physical and 24/7 online resources.



Talbot County Free Library, 1925



Caroline Burnite Walker

