Happy Fall! As the temperatures finally cool and the press of the semester start is behind us, I invite you to browse this issue of the Library Newsletter. If you are a long-time reader, you may have noticed our new look. We have also added a new online version, using “Issu.” We welcome your feedback on both changes.

Several other changes at your library are described within this issue. You’ll certainly want to give our new ebook collection a try (see p. 2 for details). If you teach online, you may also want to try our “embedded librarian” service (p.3).

Keep a lookout for an online announcement in November when we launch enhanced access to the College Archives.

I encourage you to take advantage of upcoming programs at the Hays-Heighe House, including a discussion on October 11 of this year’s OMOB title, The Cellist of Sarajevo. Please share this information with your students.

As always, we welcome your feedback on our collections, facilities and services, as you and your students use the Library to “Ask. Explore. & Create.”

HCC Archives Hold Many Stories

Dramatic performances in the old barn by “The Rustic Set?” The College declaring independence from the County Board of Education? Controversy over the Black Student Union’s constitution? The “Fighting Owls” football team undefeated four seasons in eight years? The Harford Community College Archives tells all of these stories, and many more.

Over 55 years, Harford Community College has grown from 119 students taking evening classes at the high school to a student body of ten thousand and nearly two dozen buildings. Administrators, faculty, staff, and students have generated quite a bit of material in that time, and it is the job of the HCC Archives to organize, preserve, and present those documents.

Right now we are in the process of sorting through many boxes of curriculum committee minutes, student newspapers, accreditation self-studies, slides, and course booklets. Once the materials are arranged, we will provide a finding aid and begin creating records in the library catalog. Eventually we hope to digitize commonly used materials and build pathfinders.

For more information, email Julie Mancine, jmancine@harford.edu, or Rachel Sperling, rsperling@harford.edu.
Featured Database: Ethnic NewsWatch

Ethnic NewsWatch gives researchers access to hundreds of newspapers, journals, and magazines from the ethnic and minority press, offering diverse perspectives on a wide range of topics. As the world becomes increasingly connected and HCC itself becomes increasingly global, it is essential that we include these often overlooked viewpoints in our discourse.

The current collection of Ethnic NewsWatch covers 1990 to the present, while Ethnic NewsWatch: A History covers 1959-1989 and offers a collection of more than 30 full-text titles from African American, Hispanic American, and Native American presses.

Like other ProQuest databases, the interface for Ethnic NewsWatch is very user-friendly. Researchers can search by keyword, using either the Basic or Advanced Search option, or they can browse the database’s 348 publication titles. Searches can be further narrowed down by year, publication type, subject, and so on. Ethnic NewsWatch is an excellent source for anyone writing about diverse perspectives on either current or historical events.

To access the database, click on the “Articles & Databases” link on the left-hand side of the library homepage at http://harford.edu/library and then click on either the letter “E” or select “News/Current Events” as the subject.

EBooks Are Here!

The library has recently expanded its collection of downloadable ebooks. In addition to eBooks on EBSCOhost (formerly Netlibrary), we recently subscribed to ebrary College Complete. This is a collection of over 75,000 academic titles, easily located through the library’s online catalog. These titles can be accessed and viewed both on and off campus, and are downloadable to most ereaders. Why not try one out today? Contact the reference desk at referenc@harford.edu, or x2131 for more information.
Embed a Librarian in Your Blackboard Course

Would you like to enhance your online students’ learning experiences, improve their access to support services, and expand the information literacy components of your courses? Consider embedding a librarian in your Blackboard course.

This service involves having a librarian added to your hybrid or online course as a teacher’s assistant in Blackboard. The librarian is given a separate discussion forum through which she can answer questions or post pertinent information related to Library resources, citation styles, or information literacy skills relevant to the course objectives and assignments.

One of the main challenges of distance education is creating an online learning environment in which the student feels connected to the campus and its resources. Building such a learning environment enables student success. Jean Ruyon, Dean of the Virtual Campus at Anne Arundel Community College, says “if students are going to withdraw from an online course, they will do so within the first two weeks.” During this crucial phase—when a student orientates himself to the online environment and figures out how to become an effective online learner—access to support services will help him to succeed.

Distance education students often do not know what college services are available to them. For example, students might not know how or when they can access library databases and other resources from home, or to whom they can go for help. Just knowing that they have a personal librarian to whom they can go for help can be very reassuring for these students, who often feel isolated from the rest of campus.

Says Meredyth Puller, Assistant Professor of English at HCC:

The embedded librarians have helped many students in my online and hybrid courses. Students who take those classes don’t have much time to come to campus, but the resident librarians are able to answer their questions through Blackboard very quickly and efficiently. Because the librarians have access to the most current information about the Library, particularly the online databases, they are able to help students learn the techniques that will be most helpful as they search and evaluate their sources. Furthermore, the librarians embedded in my courses have always treated students with respect and kindness and helped to build their confidence in searching for materials. Consequently, students seem far more willing to use the HCC library after using this service.

Having a librarian embedded in your Blackboard course lessens students’ anxiety about not knowing where they can go for help, and helps promote student success in using Library resources for assignments. If you’d like more information, please contact Gina Calia-Lotz, Instructional Services Librarian: gcalialotz@harford.edu or X2052. See also this document, listing suggested links to include in your Blackboard courses: http://www.harford.edu/library/faculty_services/Blackboard_Library_Links.pdf

Remember the Library

Working on your syllabus?
Have a reading list for your students?
Not sure if we own something you need?
Contact us!! We’ll be happy to give you quick feedback, and we will be more than happy to purchase any items you need that we do not own.

Contact Mary Somers by email or at 2232
Employee Publications and Performances

For the third year in a row, the Library and the Office of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs are recognizing College employees who have published or performed peer-reviewed scholarly or creative work. We congratulate the employees listed below on their accomplishments. Copies of their work will be added to the Employee Publications collection in the Special Collections Room in the Library.

On a ‘Heighe’ Note

The Hays-Heighe House began its bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812 last spring, with a star-spangled exhibit and several presentations. The War of 1812: Bicentennial Observance Exhibit will continue through December 2012, with new displays, including world geography and student projects from HIST 203. Encourage your students to come to the House and be inspired for their assignments; our annual student project showcase is held in late spring.

A second exhibit will open in October. Beauty in Sport: Celebrating Horse Racing in Harford County will feature the history and legacy of horse breeding and racing in Harford County, focusing on the Heighes and their Prospect Hill thoroughbred stud farm in the 1930s-1950s. Race on over!

The Salon at Hays-Heighe series will continue on a monthly basis during the fall semester and is a great way to engage students and the public in an intimate participatory setting. The next session will be on November 1, from 3:30-5 p.m., with a discussion on Beauty in Sport: Celebrating Horse Racing in Harford County led by County Executive David Craig. Join us on November 15 at 3:30 p.m. for Campus Memories: Celebrating 50 Years of HCC at Prospect Hill, featuring many stories and photographs from the early years of the college.

The House will host our annual holiday open house on the December 4 from 1-5:30 p.m. with decorations, food, and music. On the following day, join the discussion on holiday memories and living traditions at our December Salon, from 3:30-5 p.m.

We hope to see you at theses events or stop by during our open hours, Tuesdays 1-3 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m. – noon. For more information, call 443.412.2495 or email haysheighe@harford.edu.

Attend Our One Maryland One Book Discussion

Book lovers will want to register early for the HCC Library’s discussion of The Cellist of Sarajevo, this year’s One Maryland One Book selection. The first 20 people to RSVP for the event will receive a free copy of the book.

The Cellist of Sarajevo by Steven Galloway, is the fictionalized account of Vedran Smailović’s experiences during the siege of Sarajevo when the professional musician was an eyewitness to the slaughter of 22 individuals. For 22 days, he played his cello at the site of the massacre. Khaled Hosseini, author of The Kite Runner and A Thousand Splendid Suns called the book, “[A] universal story, and a testimony to the struggle to find meaning, grace, and humanity, even amid the most unimaginable horrors.”

The HCC Library is sponsoring a discussion on Thursday, October 11 from noon to 1:30 pm at the Hays-Heighe House. Lunch will be provided. RSVP by emailing haysheighe@harford.edu or by calling Janis Jordan, 443-412-2074.

To enrich your experience at the book discussion, plan to attend An Evening with Steven Galloway, on Monday, October 1 at 7:30 p.m. The free event will be at the Veronica “Roni” Chenowith Center, 1701 Fallston Road in Fallston. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. This program is being coordinated locally by the Harford County Public Library in partnership with the Harford County Public Library Foundation, Harford County Department of Community Services, and HCC. For further information, contact any branch of the Harford County Public Library.
The Library: A Community’s Heart

by Lucien Meadows

I remember the places I have lived, and the colleges at which I have studied, by their libraries. One of my earliest memories is at age five, when my family lived in West Virginia, and we made the 25-mile journey to the Morgantown Public Library. A large brick building, flanked by trees that blossomed white in spring, it was much larger than the one-room Clay Battelle Public Library just over 10 miles from home. Instead of one wall for fiction, one for non-fiction, one for children’s books, and one for periodicals and movies, with the Librarian’s Desk, served always by the kind, grey-haired Librarian, in the center, MPL had two floors, with seemingly endless shelves of books. There was an entire room of children’s materials! When we visited MPL, I received my first library card. I had just learned the cursive alphabet the week before, and I joyously inscribed my (cursive!) name onto the plastic card—my ticket to limitless adventures.

Later, when we left West Virginia, for each of the places we lived, I begged my parents to make the pilgrimage to the nearest Library. They never consented to go on moving day (I guess unloading furniture took precedence over new books), but we would always go, and I would get my new library card—my passport to our strange new homeland. When I needed my home-school service requirement, where did I volunteer? The public library, of course. And when I reached the age of job-seeking, my first interview was with Harford County Public Library, where I joyously accepted a position at the Abingdon Branch. When I enrolled at Harford CC, I spent all non-class time in the new Library with its high ceilings and large windows. Two years later, I began working there. Once I graduated from HCC, I transferred to Goucher. During my time there, Goucher transitioned from the two-floor, wood-paneled, earth-toned Julia Rogers Library to the four-floor Athenaum, with glass walls and bright colors.

As I reflect upon my connection with my environment through its library, I realize the physical and psychological structures of a library are powerful signifiers of its community’s climate. My most close-knit community was in West Virginia, and the one-room Clay Battelle showed, in its physical size, close connections forged in that mountain land. As Goucher moved from a focus on local service to emphasis on global stewardship, so did the library change from a smaller, earth-bound structure to one larger, airy, transparent.

Here at HCC, my home in many ways, our library is a tangible illumination of many abstract things I admire about the Harford community. Our tall ceilings invite creativity and contemplation. Our large windows encourage us to remember that our library is the intellectual portal to our world, and our work contributes to a global quest for understanding. Our library is the center of our campus.

As I prepare to move again—for I am travelling to Illinois to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing—I bring with me thirst for learning, nourished by our library for the last eight years; and I extend a profound gratitude to our library for welcoming all students and employees into our community of scholars—a membership that will never expire as long as we remain lifelong learners and readers.

Librarians on the Loose

Coming this fall, the Library will pilot a new service to patrons. Look out for the Roaming Librarians on the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Library. These Librarians will be equipped with their knowledge and an iPad to answer any of your burning reference questions. Need help locating articles for your paper? Have a question about where a book is located? Feel free to approach any of these Roaming Librarians, but they will also be on the look out to lend assistance when needed.

Roaming Librarians will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11AM-2PM. Normal reference desk hours will also be available.

Questions? Contact Jess Ambrose, Serials/New Media Librarian @ jeambrose@harford.edu
Library Celebrates Banned Book Week

Banned Books Week takes place this year from September 26 through October 6. It is the 30th anniversary of this celebration to promote intellectual freedom and prevent censorship.

Libraries value intellectual freedom so highly that the third article of the Library Bill of Rights reads “Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.” This means that when individuals or groups wish to limit access to specific materials, it is the library’s role to ensure that they don’t succeed.

According to the American Library Association’s website dedicated to Banned and Challenged Books, “a challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others.”

From September through October, the HCC Library will provide opportunities to learn about the variety of books that have been challenged or banned throughout history. There will be a display of the most frequently challenged books in the United States and an exhibit about censorship from the time of Shakespeare to the present. Finally, the HCC Library website and Facebook pages will provide media and interactive activities to underline the importance of free speech and access to ideas.

New Books

*Raising the Stakes: E-Sports and the Professionalization of Computer Gaming*
T.L. Taylor
GV 567.5.T392012
Video and computer games have been available since the 1980s, but this title is the first to provide a history of the games, their evolution, the technology and their effects on our culture. According to Henry Lowood, Curator for History of Science & Technology Collections, Stanford University: “T. L. Taylor does exactly what the title promises by giving us the first serious academic take on the world of competitive e-sports. She touches on every aspect of the new cyberatheticism, always carefully balancing enthusiasm and skepticism.”

*Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale*
Tom Wilber
HD9581.2.S53W552012
Fracking, the process of using chemicals and liquids under high pressure to release natural gas or oil from rock formations is highly controversial.

Meet Our New Librarian

I’m Cindy Conley, the new Part-Time Instruction Librarian here at HCC. I will be teaching information literacy classes and working at the Reference Desk.

I grew up in Hellertown, PA, but have since lived all around the U.S. and Europe due to being a military spouse. I received my Master’s in Library Science from Kutztown University in PA. My B.A. is in Geology from Lafayette College, Easton, PA, where I also studied education. I have Instructional Certificates through the state of Pennsylvania in Library Science (K-12) and General Science (7-12). I have been a middle and high school science teacher, a library aide for the U.S. Army, and a library data technician for ISI/LSSI located in Germantown, MD. Most recently I worked as a substitute librarian at Cecil County Public Library. I am also a note taker for Disability Support Services here at HCC, and plan to continue as such, in addition to my new part-time librarian position.

I look forward to meeting everyone. Stop by and chat; I love to discuss books, especially mysteries.
My Favorite Book

by Lois Entner
Reference Librarian

When asked my favorite book, I always have a very hard time answering. However, *A Ring of Endless Light* by Madeleine L’Engle is a book I come back to again and again and am always touched by. I love the quiet way it leads me to think on the themes of faith and our place as humans here on earth, without being preachy or pretending to have answers.

This 1980 Newberry Honor Book tells the story of the 15th summer of Vicky Austin, an aspiring writer, whose family has come to stay at the beach with her grandfather as he is dying from leukemia. Several deaths take place in the book causing Vicky to contemplate the meaning of life, death and her place in the world. Three very different young men vying for Vicky’s attention add an element of romance, and her involvement with a scientific dolphin experiment adds an element of fun, but it is the thoughtfulness of this book and its beautiful prose and imagery that brings me to read it again and again.

Throughout the story, we see characters of different ages wrestle with what it means to be human and the limited time we have on earth, and yet there is a joyous undertone throughout the story. Vicky and the other characters do not know all the answers and the process of exploring their own beliefs and faith, allow the reader to explore right along with them. This is a quiet book, but a powerful one, and I find myself moved every time I read it.