

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Indian River Library is hosting the first annual Gaming Fest from May 15-17. Check our website for details.
- The author of *WICKED*, Gregory Maguire, joins us at Central Library on May 28 at 7:00 PM.
- Summer Reading begins on June 15. Check your local library for more information.
- Check out our new website at www.infopeake.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gaming Fest @ Indian River	May 15-17
National Children's Book Week - Daisy visits the libraries	May 11-17
Author Gregory Maguire at Central	May 28
Fantasci @ Central	June 6
Summer Reading Program begins	June 15
Summer Reading Carnival @ Central	June 20

Cuffee Library Manager Olivia Osei-Sarfo Receives Safe Harbor Award



Olivia Osei-Sarfo, manager of the Dr. Clarence V. Cuffee Library, was honored by Children's Harbor of Hampton Roads on April 15 with a "Safe Harbor Award" given in recognition of those who have made a commitment to improve the lives of Hampton Roads' children. The award presentation was made during a luncheon held at the Murray Center in Norfolk. Library Director Betsy Fowler, Assistant Director Therese Bigelow, and other staff members attended the luncheon to show the library's resounding support for Olivia's work.

Olivia was recognized for the positive impact she has made on the countless numbers of children she comes in contact with in the community, through her church and the libraries where she has worked. She summed up her mission in life with this quote from the French novelist Victor Hugo: "He who opens a school door closes a prison door."

Thanks, Olivia. We are all very proud of you.



SNAP Centers Open at Greenbrier, Indian River and South Norfolk

April 1st was the grand opening of three new SNAP (SHARED NETWORK ACCESS POINT) Centers - at Greenbrier, Indian River, and South Norfolk Libraries - all part of the Workforce Development initiative underway in Chesapeake. The libraries play a pivotal role in this program by providing SNAP Centers, which are a one stop service points designed to assist unemployed and underemployed individuals with online job searching, resume writing, and other job search services.

Library staff members are being trained at Opportunity Inc. on how to provide expert job seeker services, proctor tests, and demonstrate educational software. Each SNAP center will be holding online job hunting classes where patrons will learn how to register and use the Shared Network Access Point (SNAP) system to search for jobs.

Volunteers are being recruited to help patrons one-on-one with resume writing. TCC plans to hold job skill development classes at the Cuffee Library starting in the fall. Cuffee Library opened the first SNAP Center in November 2008 and the remaining three libraries will open SNAP Centers on June 1st.





Boys To Men on WHRO

A recent meeting of the Cuffee Library's Boys To Men Club was filmed by

WHRO as part of the Community Impact Award presentation for Veronica McMillian, Founder and Executive Director of Let's Talk, Inc. The Boys To Men Club helps connect young men with mentors who can teach and guide them in career choices and Veronica partners with Cuffee Library staff to bring guest speakers to the meetings each month. The video will be shown at the awards luncheon on May 20 at the Waterside Marriott.

Betsy Fowler's "Design on a Dime" Effort for South Norfolk Earns Praise in the Clipper

Betsy and crew received a "Thumbs Up" from the Clipper on April 3 for the volunteer effort to refresh and refurbish the South Norfolk Memorial Library using lots of creativity and elbow grease - and very little money. The entire library was rearranged to make the collections more appealing and relevant and create fun destination points for the patrons. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Patrons love the new look.

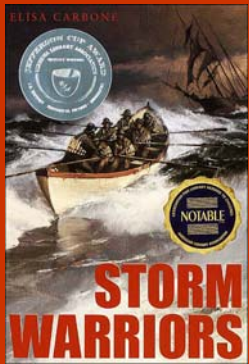


South Norfolk Library in the Limelight (Again!)

Tony Stein of the Clipper interviewed South Norfolk Library Manager Pat Jefferson about the dramatic changes in the South Norfolk Memorial Library. Tony visited the library for the interview and his first comment was the library looked very inviting. Bingo! That is exactly what Betsy, Pat, and the staff were hoping to achieve. In Tony's words: "We all would love to find a treasure chest. There is one. It's a library and a library card is the key."

One Book One Community Program

The One Book One Community author event featuring Elisa Carbone made the front page of the Clipper on April 19. Eric Feber provided an in-depth look at the program along with an interview of Elisa. One Book One Community featured the award winning young adult book *Storm Warriors* written by Carbone in 2001. The book tells the story of the all African-American crew stationed at the Pea Island U.S. Life Saving Station in the late 1800s. It's a tale of high adventure and ship rescues, told from the eyes of a 12 year old boy. If you haven't read the book, be sure to pick up a copy today at any of our libraries.



Paws to Read Program Featured on Front Page of Clipper

The Paws to Read Program, hosted by several of our Chesapeake libraries, was the feature article on the cover of the Clipper on Friday, May 1, 2009. A reporter visited Russell Memorial Library for Paws to Read in April and came away smiling...with a great story, too. Watching the kids relax while reading to the very loveable therapy dogs was a real treat for reporter Vicki Friedman and photographer Preston Gannaway. They were impressed with the kids' enthusiasm for reading to their very attentive listeners. Paws to Read, supported by Therapy Dogs International, is held at Central, Greenbrier and Russell Memorial one Saturday each month.

