FEATURE ARTICLES

Guide to Indigenous Maryland: Learn About Historic Sites in Maryland Neighborhoods 14

Guide to Indigenous Maryland leads users on a tour of 21 curated sites throughout the state that reflect how Native American and Indigenous heritage is an integral part of local history and contemporary life.

OutRAIGeous Reviews 16

Books Recommended by the Members of the MLA Reader’s Advisory Interest Group.

Back to the Epic 80s: Maryland Association of Counties Conference 19

Maryland Library Association members from across the state jumped back to the Epic 80s during the Maryland Association of Counties Conference in Ocean City from August 17-19.

Night Sky Notes: Fomalhaut: Not So Lonely After All 35

Fall evenings bring a prominent visitor to southern skies for Northern Hemisphere observers: the bright star Fomalhaut! Sometimes called “The Autumn Star,” Fomalhaut appears unusually distant from other bright stars in its section of sky, leading to its other nickname: “The Loneliest Star.”

In addition to these Contents pages, you can use Bookmarks to navigate through your Digital Magazine!
## THIS ISSUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor’s Note</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Message</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New in MLA! Materials Interest Group</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than Flash Cards: The Summer Math Series at BCPL</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCLS STEAM Machine Debuts at the Howard County Fair</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LIBRARY PEOPLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library People</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meet Chelsea Shockley</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet Jennifer Jones</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Editor’s Note

As the weather cools and the leaves start to turn, I hope that all of you have a chance to take a breath and reflect on a busy summer filled with programs, activities, seminars, conferences, and new innovations that have the enthusiastic support of your communities! In the features and news shared in the Crab this quarter, it is wonderful to see the impact of your hard work throughout Maryland. From Baltimore County Public Library’s Summer Math Series to the new STEAM Machine at Howard County Library System, libraries are developing future leaders in science and technology while making learning fun. At the Maryland Association of Counties Conference, civic leaders from across the state had the opportunity to see the work of our libraries in action, across the decades. The new Guide to Indigenous Maryland is a fine example of your collaboration, with members from libraries across the state working on the Project Task Force. Finally, groups like the new Materials Interest Group have a vested interest in collaboration and innovation, gathering (whether online or in-person) to discuss best practices and brainstorm new ideas.

We have so much to offer our state, and as Nay notes in her President’s message, we have so much to look forward to in the year ahead—from Conference to the MLA Centennial to the new Strategic Plan. Look for more news about all of these in the next few issues and, as always, please share your own success stories with readers of the Crab. We welcome your contributions!

One final note: in the last issue, it was our privilege to share the 2022 MLA Award winners. Due to deadline constraints, we were not able to include a photograph of MLA Outstanding Paraprofessional Award winner Connie Trent of Anne Arundel County Public Library. Connie was nominated by her branch manager, Liz Saniga, who shared the accompanying photograph. As Debby Bennett wrote in last issue’s article, “Connie works tirelessly for the Deale Branch of AACPL. She works to make the branch beautiful, organized, and friendly. When she finds a problem, she takes care of it with aplomb. She is a wonderful trainer, a wonderful circulation assistant, and a great part of Liz Saniga’s team.” Congratulations to Connie!

Julie Fitzpatrick, MLA Crab Editor
Howard County Library System

Connie Trent receives her 2022 MLA Outstanding Paraprofessional Award. Josh Stone, Executive Director, Maryland Library Association; Mary Anne Bowman, 2021-2022 MLA President; Connie Trent; Liz Saniga, Branch Manager, Deale Library; Skip Auld, CEO, Anne Arundel County Public Library; Gloria Harberts, Regional Library of the Southern Area of AACPL.
Congratulations! Pat yourself on the back! You made it through what was, for many of us, our first fully open summer season since we closed our doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I visited quite a few Maryland libraries this summer and am in awe of the incredible programming you’ve all done for community members of all ages, needs, and interests. Thank you so much for designing creative, engaging, and FUN learning opportunities to invite community members back to their libraries. We already have some big developments this year within the Maryland Library Association, so let’s dig in!

We said goodbye to our Vice President/President Elect, Michele Hamiel, who left public libraries for an incredible opportunity with the Urban Libraries Council. Michele has done so much for MLA throughout her years of service, and she will be greatly missed by all of us. Due to losing her so early in the year, MLA held a special election for her replacement. I am so happy to announce that the new 2022-2023 Vice President/President Elect is KennethWayne Thompson! KennethWayne has been instrumental in supporting the LGBTQ+ Interest Group, the Black Caucus of MLA, and many other initiatives. Thank you to Morgan Miller and the Nominations Committee, as well as to all who voted to ensure a seamless leadership transition.

MLA Connect launched in July, and so many of you have already taken advantage of it for posting news articles, unit information, and of course - all of the memes! If you haven’t checked it out yet, visit https://mla.tradewing.com/ and log in with your MLA Account to get started. Feel free to introduce yourself and share anything you’d like the Maryland library community to know about, ask questions, and share in the good times.

MLA strives to grow and meet the needs and wants of the Maryland library community. When Laura Bandoch of Harford County Public Library approached MLA leadership and let us know that she and other colleagues would appreciate an interest group to discuss all things materials, she fulfilled the proposal requirements, and now this has become a reality! Read her feature in this issue to find out more information about the group and how you can connect with others in materials and processing.

Hot on the tails of the American Library Association Conference in DC, we jumped right into planning some great Maryland gatherings. The Conference Committee is hard at work creating an excellent state conference experience in partnership with the Delaware Library Association for May 10-12, 2023, in Cambridge, MD. The annual conference strives to build and promote a strong, engaged, knowledgeable, diverse, and inclusive library community to advance the transformational impact of library staff and libraries. MLA/DLA seeks proposals and speakers representing the full range of library organizations (academic, school, public, specialized, etc.) and positions within the library. Stay tuned for more information on registration later this year. November 2023 also marks MLA’s Centennial, so keep an eye out for announcements about events celebrating this milestone as well!

Finally, we are full steam ahead with the creation of our new Strategic Plan. In August, we released two surveys - one for members, and one for non-members. The Steering Committee, Executive Board, and Advisory Council will use the results to determine our next areas of focus. We will continue to advocate for issues and legislation that matter to libraries, and we will continue to provide excellent learning and development opportunities for library staff. This Strategic Plan will shape the way we do these things and create paths to ensure our organization is welcome to all and reflects the needs of its membership.

Thank you again for a great summer, and I can’t wait to see what fall brings.
The Crab • Fall, 2022 • Contents: Features • Contents: Continued

New in MLA!
The Materials Interest Group
Laura Bandoch, Harford County Public Library

The Materials Interest Group held its very first meeting on Wednesday, August 31st via Zoom. We had individuals from academic and public libraries from across the state in attendance. Our discussion ranged from the group’s immediate goals, to a broader conversation ranging from call numbers and eBook management, to inflation and book leasing programs.

The idea for the Materials Interest Group came from a time of transition in my own library career. I started with a new library system in a role in which I oversee the processing of library materials. There was excellent documentation on practices, but I wanted a space to reach out to when new issues arose in the workflow. Occasionally it takes an outsider’s perspective to find a solution since sometimes we have blinders on in our own organization.

It has been some time since the disbandment of the MLA Technical Services Division. A Division requires a lot more structure to sustain (voted-in officers being a notable structural component). An Interest Group is a little more flexible. I worked with Nay Keppler and Conni Strittmatter to figure out how a petition should look for the group. I was able to base the Materials Interest Group petition on the petition that the LGBTQ+ Interest Group used. I then sent out the petition to the MaryLib ListServ. Once the signatures were gathered, I attended an MLA Executive Board meeting, and it was approved.

The ultimate goal for the group is to provide a space to talk about those materials questions—what are selection best practices? What kinds of labels are used on special collections items? What kinds of changes are happening in the eBook realm? How can we utilize the physical space in libraries to promote our physical materials? The conversation encompasses whatever the group members bring to any particular meeting. We will be hosting one program at MLA/DLA 2023 as per the MLA Bylaws.

Our next meeting is October 12 at 3:00 PM via Zoom. We will be discussing eBook lending models as well as other digital resources. The agenda will also include more open floor time to talk about those little things that popped up in your library that you want to brainstorm solutions for aloud. Be on the lookout for more info on MLA Connect!
More Than Flash Cards: The Summer Math Series at BCPL

Bettina Wesloh, Baltimore County Public Library

This summer, the Owings Mills Branch of Baltimore County Public Library spent six weeks exploring basic math concepts, with an emphasis on fun, in a set of children’s programs, The Math Series. Over the course of six weeks, we used a literature-based program that included hands-on activities tied to concepts in a chosen book (see list below).

We began each session with a problem from the Bedtime Math website: https://bedtimemath.org/ Bedtime Math also has two apps: Bedtime Math and Mini Math, both available on the Apple App and Google Play stores. Bedtime Math sends out an email every day with a math problem to be solved. The e-mails (website and app) include three levels of difficulty for each problem, along with easy-to-understand answers for each question. The problem of the day was on the screen when the children arrived, and we allowed them time to work on the problem independently before we solved the problem together.

The books we chose were stories that had a math theme integral to the plot. The list:

**Actual Size by Steve Jenkins**
This lovely story compares the actual size of well-known animals in the pages of the book. After we read the story, we used tape measures to measure out the actual size of animals using the cards “What is Your Actual Size” by Chrissy Youel from the Teachers Pay Teachers website.

**Bracelets for Bina’s Brothers by Rajani LaRocca**
Bina is searching for a gift to give her brothers for Raksha Bandhan, a Hindu holiday. She settles upon making each one a bracelet with a unique pattern that reflects each brother’s personality and interests. We practiced making patterns as a group before we made our own patterned bracelets.

**Look Grandma! Ni Elisí! by Art Coulson**
A child makes Cherokee marbles to sell at his grandmother’s table at a powwow. She gives him a small space to display his marbles. We used a variety of different-sized and different-shaped containers to see which container would best display 10 ping-pong balls.

**Seven Golden Rings by Rajani LaRocca**
This clever tale tells the story of Bhagat, who goes to the city with his mother’s last seven golden rings from a necklace to try out for the position of court musician for the Rajah. The young man has the links broken down into smaller pieces. As it turns out, the pieces are representative of binary code. For this week’s activity, we gave the children number cards with the binary code for the numbers 1-10. We then pulled up parents and gave them dual-sided cards with the number one on one side and zero on the other side. A “programmer” came up and arranged the numbers the parents were holding to reflect one of the numbers 1-10. The children sitting down checked the work of the “programmer” to verify that they got the number correct. We finished up this activity by making bracelets with the first letter of the child’s name represented in binary code with pony beads.

**Cryptology**
No book this week. Instead, we had a special guest speak with the children about codebreaking, and then they presented a codebreaking challenge. Working in groups, the children deciphered an encoded clue to solve a puzzle.

**Media Mentors iPads**
We finished out the series with the Media Mentor iPads, which allowed families to explore math-related apps and discover what apps appealed most to their children.

The 155 children that attended the series enjoyed learning that math is more than flash cards and is a fun way to explore our world.
More Than Flash Cards, continued

Screenshot from the Media Mentors iPad, showing the apps that the children explored during the summer math series at BCPL.
HCLS STEAM Machine Debuts at the Howard County Fair

By Christie Lassen and Kristen Blount, Howard County Library System

Howard County Library System added a mobile STEAM classroom to its education resources in August. The new mobile unit, a 33’ Farber diesel bus, features a climate-controlled classroom that seats twelve students. It is equipped with Wi-Fi, laptop computers, two 49” LED TVs, sound system, video production equipment, materials, and supplies, including science kits to conduct experiments and complete projects. A 55” LCD monitor and two awnings allow classes to be taught and activities conducted outside.

As the mobile classroom goes out into our community, students can borrow books and other materials on STEAM subjects. Our goal is to transform students into scientists investigating new phenomena and engineers designing solutions to real-world problems.

Tonya Aikens, President & CEO of HCLS, notes, “Howard County Library System is coordinating with community partners to schedule STEAM Machine classes across the county. Our goal is to bring opportunities for hands-on STEAM education to students from under-resourced communities and families who, for an array of reasons, are often unable to come to our branches.”

HCLS instructors will teach most classes with contributions from scientists and engineers from the Maryland STEAM community, who will be recruited for special events. HCLS is collaborating with community partners to determine student aspirations and needs, identify community locations for STEAM Machine visits, and schedule classes and events.

The STEAM Machine made its debut in August at the Howard County Fair, and STEAM Mobile Unit Driver and Instruction Assistant Christopher Heady said of the event, “The public’s response was overwhelmingly positive. On hot days—every day!—people climbed aboard to take a break from the heat. The bus was literally and figuratively cool.”

Here are some additional comments from young participants:

“This car is what I like!”

“This place is awesome. I don’t want to ever leave!”

“This is great! We got to go to the fair and the library at the same time!”

In the slower moments, Christopher had a chance to introduce a child to illustrating in Photoshop.

“Where have you been all my life?” the child said in amazement as they drew a Crewmate from the hit game ‘Among Us.’

The STEAM Machine is funded in part by an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant through the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Maryland State Library Agency.

All photos courtesy of Howard County Government.
Ribbon cutting for the HCLS STEAM Machine. Tamar Sarnoff, Maryland State Library Agency; Nana Owusu-Nkwantabisa, Friends & Foundation of HCLS; Ellen Flynn Giles, Friends & Foundation of HCLS; Robert Mentz, HCLS Board of Trustees; Congressman John Sarbanes, Maryland’s 3rd District; Tonya Aikens, HCLS President and CEO; Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive; Phillip Dodge, HCLS Board of Trustees; Clarence Lam, Maryland State Senator, District 12; Christiana Rigby, Howard County Council.

Howard County Council member Christiana Rigby and Howard County Executive Calvin Ball get a tour of the new STEAM Machine from HCLS President and CEO Tonya Aikens.
Excited students wait to board the STEAM Machine after the ribbon cutting ceremony.
HCLS President and CEO Tonya Aikens talks about the features of the STEAM Machine with distinguished guests.

HCLS COO for Public Services Lew Belfont and STEAM Mobile Unit Driver and Instruction Assistant Christopher Heady welcome new students aboard the STEAM machine.
Learn More About Our NEW MEMBERSHIP OFFERS
Visit www.servingamericaslibrarycommunity.org

Federally insured by NCUA
Learn About Historic Sites in Maryland Neighborhoods

Silvana Quiroz, Prince George’s County Memorial Library System

As you open the Guide to Indigenous Maryland mobile app, it seems like you are about to embark on a trip in time. The roads and places are familiar, but their significance has impacted history in many ways. Who would have known that Route 40, in Cumberland, Maryland, was the National Road—considered the first national thoroughfare that connected Baltimore to places such as Pittsburgh. The road was created by Nemacolin, the chief of the Delaware Nation, who helped widen a Native American Path across the Allegheny Mountains to the Ohio River Valley. The Monocacy National Battlefield River harbors more than a dozen Native archeological sites in Frederick. Following the arrow through the Guide to Indigenous Maryland app feels like walking the paths ancestors walked centuries ago.

Guide to Indigenous Maryland leads users on a tour of 21 curated sites throughout the state that reflect how Native American and Indigenous heritage is an integral part of local history and contemporary life. This trip, enhanced with knowledge, is a reality thanks to Maryland’s public libraries, under the auspices of the Maryland State Library Agency (MSLA) and Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) through the Maryland Libraries Together statewide collaborative.

The new educational resource provides an engaging entry point for Marylanders of all ages to learn about the history of local Native and Indigenous peoples. Sites range from the Bald Friar Ford Petroglyphs in Harford County and Piscataway Park in Prince George’s County to the Askiminokonson Indian Town in Worcester County. Tribal communities represented include the Piscataway, Pocomoke, Moyaone, Nanticoke, Chicone, and more.

Developed between November 2021 and June 2022, Guide to Indigenous Maryland is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, through the Library Services and Technology Act, and administered by the Maryland State Library Agency, the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, and Maryland’s community of public library systems. The Guide was curated by Dr. Elizabeth Rule, Assistant Professor, American University. Dr. Rule is a member of the Chickasaw Nation and is renowned nationally as a leading proponent of engaging the public with the Native and Indigenous heritage of local communities. She previously developed and launched a Guide to Indigenous DC and Guide to Indigenous Baltimore.

The sites currently featured in the Guide are drawn from over 125 sites that were submitted to the project curator and task force through an open public call for crowdsourced submissions. Sites recommended by representatives of local tribal organizations were prioritized in the curatorial process and the Guide samples historical sites and markers, culturally significant natural landmarks, artistic works that honor local Native American and Indigenous Heritage, and more. The Guide does not aim to provide a comprehensive overview.

Gregg Deal, The Duality of Indigeneity, Baltimore, Maryland, 2015.
of local sites, but rather a sampling to encourage further exploration.

The project task force includes representatives from Maryland’s 24 public library systems, tribal nations, statewide cultural heritage organizations, and Maryland State Archives. Troi Madison Newman, a Black and Indigenous artist and enrolled citizen of the Piscataway Nation, is the Guide to Indigenous Maryland project artist. Her design for the Guide, which features a terrapin, colors that reflect local tribal heritage, and Maryland’s state flag, “embodies a minimalist concept with Maryland influence and the various indigenous communities” who call these lands home. Community members are invited to utilize the Guide and share feedback at IndigenousMD.info. This feedback will help guide enhancements to the Guide over the coming months. Maryland’s public libraries are encouraged to expand Native American and Indigenous cultural programs and outreach, and Guide to Indigenous Maryland is one tool that can assist with that effort.

Dr. Elizabeth Rule, Project Curator
Chickasaw Nation | Assistant Professor, American University

Dr. Elizabeth Rule is Assistant Professor of Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies at American University. She is an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. Rule’s research on Indigenous issues has been featured in the Washington Post, Matter of Fact with Soledad O’Brien, The Atlantic, Newsy, and NPR. She is also a published author, releasing scholarly articles in the American Quarterly and in the American Indian Culture and Research Journal. Rule has two forthcoming monographs. The first, Reproducing Resistance: Gendered Violence and Indigenous Nationhood, analyzes the intersection of violence against Native women, reproductive justice, and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. Rule’s second monograph, Indigenous DC: Native Peoples and the Nation’s Capital (Georgetown University Press), analyzes historical and contemporary sites of Indigenous importance in Washington and complements her Guide to Indigenous DC mobile application.

Beyond the classroom, Rule continues her work as an educator by presenting her research and delivering invited talks on Native American issues. More than 100 public speaking engagements and interviews have taken her across three continents and to seven countries. Venues for such presentations include the United Nations Association USA, the Institut des Amériques in Paris, France, the National Congress of American Indians, the Women’s and Gender Studies Intellectual Forum at MIT, the National Gallery of Art, and more. Previously, Dr. Rule has held posts as Director of the Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy and Faculty in Residence at George Washington University, Director of the Native American Political Leadership Program and the INSPIRE PreCollege Program, MIT Indigenous Communities Fellow, Postdoctoral Fellow at American University, and Ford Foundation Fellow. Rule received her Ph.D. and M.A. in American Studies from Brown University, and her B.A. from Yale University.

Troi Madison Newman, Project Artist
Piscataway Nation

Troi Madison Newman, a black-indigenous enrolled citizen of Piscataway Conoy Tribe Maryland, is a graphic designer and paralegal graduate student from George Washington University. Troi is a certified American Board Association paralegal. From 2019 to 2021, while obtaining her master’s degree at George Washington University, Troi researched Missing Murdered Indigenous Women under Professor Lisa Leibow and Professor Elizabeth Rule. Troi’s research led to a publishing thesis called “Are Tribal Courts equipped with the knowledge and resources to handle MMIW cases of non-Native perpetrators?”. This thesis allowed Troi to interview the Honorable Pat Sekaquaptewa, Justice of Hopi Appellate Court, The Court of Indian Affairs, Western Region; Magistrate Marsha Harlan; Prosecutor Stephanie Whisman; and Sophia Torres. Troi is a Type 1 diabetic and a huge advocate for the visibility of Type 1 diabetes amongst minority groups. When Troi is not freelancing graphic designs, she is a paralegal for All Native Group (ANG), a government contractor for Ho-Chunk Inc. of Ho-Chunk Nation. This Fall 2022, Troi will be a part of the incoming class at the University of Wisconsin School of Law. Check out Troi’s design work at linktr.ee/troimadison.
The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Díaz (Riverhead Books, 2007)

Review by Bina Pittman

If you wish to learn more about how history, politics, dictatorships, and colorism influenced the culture of the Dominican Republic, I highly recommend that you listen to the mesmerizing audiobook for The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, narrated by Tony Award winning actors Lin-Manuel Miranda (Hamilton) and Karen Olivo (In the Heights). [Trigger warnings for racial epithets, physical/mental abuse, body shaming, and suicide]. The protagonist is Dominican American Oscar Wao, an overweight, romance-starved, sci-fi/fantasy writer living in New Jersey. Wao’s epic search for a girlfriend, along with nuclear and communal acceptance, is an uphill battle against the history of the bloody Rafael Trujillo era, the secret police, toxic masculinity, and debilitating colorism explained by multiple characters throughout this 352-page novel. The characters are united by their concern for Oscar’s well-being, as well as by their ambivalent love, memories, and time spent in the Dominican Republic over multiple generations. This novel is a lyrical, raw, and memorable collage of Dominican love for family, a search for identity, and the desire for acceptance in America and in the Dominican Republic—past and present.
You Made a Fool of Death with Your Beauty by Akwaeke Emezi
(Atria Books, 2022)

Review by Meg Faller

I was about a third of the way through this book about an artist trying to heal from a great loss when I almost put it down! It’s a me problem, I know! I have an issue with second-hand embarrassment. I could see a situation developing with the protagonist that made me really uncomfortable, and I was tempted to abandon the whole book, but I had heard so much praise about not only Akwaeke Emezi, but this book particularly, that I decided to keep going. I’m so glad I did!! It was absolutely brilliant! The consideration, empathy, and the genuine emotion depicted kept me so invested in ALL of the characters’ outcomes! It was also fascinating to learn about the art world and vicariously feel what life on a gorgeous island is like. So glad I listened to the hype.
The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson (Hachette Books, 2012)

Review by Amy Jenkins

Move over, dark Swedish noir, and make room for a refreshingly quirky and fun tale where the criminal is a feisty centenarian. The story follows the life and antics of Allan Karlsson, a retirement home escapee who, despite his appearance, is anything but ordinary. You see, he is a demolition expert!!!

The story is told in alternating perspectives that weave between the past and present. Simply put, Allan’s life is full of fantastical adventures and readers can’t help but happily fasten their seatbelts and go on this amazing ride. After all, how can you not follow a plot featuring a suitcase of millions of dollars, a hot dog stand owner, and an elephant named Sophie.

This book would be perfect for readers of Fredrik Backman’s A Man Called Ove or Rachel Joyce’s The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry.
BACK TO THE EPIC 80S
MARYLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS from across the state jumped back to the Epic 80s during the Maryland Association of Counties Conference in Ocean City from August 17-19. Our booth highlighted the trade show theme by showing legislators and government officials how libraries have changed over the past 40 years. Featured items included contrasting a Nintendo game with a 3D printer, a card catalog with a modern computerized one, and popular titles from the 80s with those of today. Members were pleased to interact in person with our local politicians and show them how much local libraries benefit their constituents.

Sneaks showed off the Maryland Libraries booth featuring libraries from the 1980s versus the library today!

We pity the fool who doesn’t love Maryland libraries!
Larry Porter, Caroline County Commissioner.

John “Johnny O” Olszewski, Jr., Baltimore County Executive.
Susan Krebs, Maryland Delegate, District 5.

Josh Stone, Executive Director, Maryland Library Association; Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott.
Ed Rothstein, Carroll County Commissioner; Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; Richard Weaver, Carroll County Commissioner.
Arthur Ellis, Maryland Senator, District 28, discusses the future of Southern Maryland’s libraries with Ashley Teagle, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, and Carrie Willson, Calvert Library. Looking on is Al Martin, Maryland State Library Board.
Kati Townsley, Carroll County Public Library; Ashley Teagle, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association; Sabine Simonson, Talbot County Free Library; Lieutenant Governor Boyd Rutherford; Mary Hastler, Harford County Public Library; Pete Lesher, Talbot County Councilman; Al Martin, Maryland State Library Board; Amy L. M. Meyers, Carroll County Public Library; Thomas Vose, Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County.
Sabine Simonson, Talbot County Free Library; Peter Franchot, Maryland Comptroller.

Governor Larry Hogan and Carrie Willson, Calvert Library.
Josh Stone, Maryland Library Association Executive Director; Senator Ben Cardin; Tamar Sarnoff, Maryland State Library Agency.
Wes Moore greets members of the Maryland Library Association. Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; Tamar Sarnoff, Maryland State Library Agency; Josh Stone, Executive Director, Maryland Library Association; Wes Moore; Sabine Simonson, Talbot County Free Library.
Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott tries out the 1980s-style Nintendo at the Maryland Libraries booth.
Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; Carrie Willson, Calvert Library; First Lady Yumi Hogan; Megan Sutherland, Prince George’s County Memorial Library System.
William Boniface, former Harford County Executive candidate; Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; Mary Hastler, Harford County Public Library; First Lady Yumi Hogan; Governor Larry Hogan.
First Lady Yumi Hogan admires a 3D-printed and fully articulated crab. Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; Governor Larry Hogan; First Lady Yumi Hogan; Carrie Willson, Calvert Library.
Leslie Greenly Smith, Harford County Public Library; Megan Sutherland, Prince George's County Memorial Library System; William Boniface, former Harford County Executive candidate; Kati Townsley, Carroll County Public Library; Mary Hastler, Harford County Public Library; Tiffany Sutherland, Calvert Library; Josh Stone, Executive Director, Maryland Library Association; Tamar Sarnoff, Maryland State Library Agency; Governor Larry Hogan; Andrea Berstler, Carroll County Public Library; First Lady Yumi Hogan.
ALL EVENINGS bring a prominent visitor to southern skies for Northern Hemisphere observers: the bright star Fomalhaut! Sometimes called “The Autumn Star,” Fomalhaut appears unusually distant from other bright stars in its section of sky, leading to its other nickname: “The Loneliest Star.” Since this star appears so low and lonely over the horizon for many observers, is so bright, and often wildly twinkles from atmospheric turbulence, Fomalhaut’s brief but bright seasonal appearance often inspires a few startled UFO reports. While definitely out of this world—Fomalhaut is about 25 light years distant from us—it has been extensively studied and is a fascinating, and very identified, stellar object.

Fomalhaut appears solitary, but it does in fact have company. Fomalhaut’s entourage includes two stellar companions, both of which keep their distance but are still gravitationally bound. Fomalhaut B (aka TW Piscis Austrini, not to be confused with former planetary candidate Fomalhaut b*), is an orange dwarf star almost a light year distant from its parent star (Fomalhaut A), and Fomalhaut C (aka LP 876-10), a red dwarf star located a little over 3 light years from Fomalhaut A! Surprisingly far from its parent star—even from our view on Earth, Fomalhaut C lies in the constellation Aquarius, while Fomalhaut A and B lie in Piscis Australis, another constellation!—studies of Fomalhaut C confirm it as the third stellar member of the Fomalhaut system, its immense distance still within Fomalhaut A’s gravitational influence. So, while not truly “lonely,” Fomalhaut A’s companions do keep their distance.

Fomalhaut’s most famous feature is a massive and complex disc of debris spanning many billions of miles in diameter. This disc was first detected by NASA’s IRAS space telescope in the 1980s, and first imaged in visible light by Hubble in 2004. Studies by additional advanced telescopes, based both on Earth’s surface and in space, show the debris

---

* Astronomers use capital letters to label companion stars, while lowercase letters are used to label planets.
around Fomalhaut to be differentiated into several “rings” or “belts” of different sizes and types of materials.

Complicating matters further, the disc is not centered on the star itself, but on a point approximately 1.4 billion miles away, or half a billion miles further from Fomalhaut than Saturn is from our own Sun! In the mid-2000s a candidate planetary body was imaged by Hubble and named Fomalhaut b. However, Fomalhaut b was observed to slowly fade over multiple years of observations, and its trajectory appeared to take it out of the system, which is curious behavior for a planet. Scientists now suspect that Hubble observed the shattered debris of a recent violent collision between two 125-mile wide bodies, their impact driving the remains of the now decidedly non-planetary Fomalhaut b out of the system! Interestingly enough, Fomalhaut A isn’t the only star in its system to host a dusty disc; Fomalhaut C also hosts a disc, detected by the Herschel Space Observatory in 2013. Despite their distance, the two stars may be exchanging material between their discs - including comets! Their co-mingling may help to explain the elliptical nature of both of the stars’ debris discs. The odd one out, Fomalhaut B does not possess a debris disc of its own, but may host at least one suspected planet.

While Hubble imaged the infamous “imposter planet” of Fomalhaut b, very few planets have been directly imaged by powerful telescopes, but NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope will soon change that. In fact, Webb will be imaging Fomalhaut and its famous disc in the near future, and its tremendous power is sure to tease out more amazing discoveries from its dusty grains. You can learn about the latest discoveries from Webb and NASA’s other amazing missions at nasa.gov.

This article is distributed by NASA’s Night Sky Network (NSN). The NSN supports astronomy clubs across the USA dedicated to astronomy outreach. Visit nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov to find local clubs, events, and more!
Meet Chelsea Shockley!

We're excited to feature Chelsea Shockley, president of Support Services Division at MLA, in this edition of the Crab. Chelsea is currently Customer Experience Manager at the Maryland State Library Resource Center/Enoch Pratt Free Library. Chelsea, whose first job was as a Teacher’s Assistant at KinderCare, started out in libraries at Harford County Public Library in 2008 as a part-time Circulation Assistant at the Edgewood branch (her hometown branch). During her undergraduate years at Towson University, she also worked part-time as a Student Assistant in the Special Collections & Archives at Cook Library. While looking for full-time work after college, Chelsea applied to SLRC/EPFL in 2012 and started out as an Office Assistant at Central Circulation. She found other opportunities along the way: administrative assistant for the Information Access Division (now known as Public Services Division) then Interim Special Assistant, Circulation Manager, and now Customer Experience Manager. Her usual responsibilities include corresponding with customers, providing input from the customer’s perspective on projects, updating policies, and researching new initiatives, but she says that her typical day could easily be described as “other duties as assigned.”

Chelsea was recommended for this profile by last quarter’s featured library person, Anita Crawford of Baltimore County Public Library, who shared that Chelsea is a “great candidate” who “has been doing a lot in her division.” Chelsea has been a member of Support Services Division since 2018, including last year as Vice President and as current President. She was also a member of the 2022 Conference Committee. Asked about her goals for SSD and what she’s excited about for the upcoming year, she says, “We’re hoping to add more members to our group and provide relevant content for our fellow support staff through training and conference sessions. I’m most excited about possible changes to MLA that will reduce financial barriers to membership - I know that’s why some are more hesitant to join. I’ll be doing a session at this year's Maryland Statewide Circulation Conference on the opportunities and benefits of getting involved in an MLA group as well. I didn’t know much about MLA before, so just increasing awareness of what we have to offer is a great way to get more involved.”

Nay Keppler, MLA President, says of Chelsea, “She is an absolute joy to work with and I’m so glad she’s become an MLA leader, taking the Support Services Division to new heights. She jumped right in with great questions, always ensuring that support staff feel welcome and embraced in MLA.”

Chelsea says that, like many, she first discovered and loved libraries as a young reader. She says, “I appreciate that libraries are one of the few remaining places where you can get what you need (or want) for free. Seeing people who have received job offers because of our services or had their quality of life improved through programs like Social Worker in the Library is amazing. I can’t (and don’t want to) imagine our communities without libraries!”

Chelsea has a busy schedule; in addition to her career and MLA responsibilities, she is also finishing up her MLIS. She still has time to read, though, both for pleasure and for her degree: “The Portable MLIS (for school, womp womp) & Walking in My Joy: In These Streets by Jenifer Lewis (for fun!).” When asked about books that changed the way she thinks about a topic, Chelsea cites Trick Mirror: Reflections on Self-Delusion by Jia Tolentino (“I LOVE this book so much. Jia's essays provide great introspection on the self and our culture at-large”) and Big Friendship: How We Keep Each Other Close by Aminatou Sow & Ann Friedman, which changed the way she thinks about friendships and how we sustain them. Chelsea loves pop music and K-pop and is also a devoted e-audiobook listener with a huge TBR pile she's trying to keep under control.

In terms of the wider community, Chelsea is an enthusiastic supporter of local community resource and social justice organizations, including Bmore Community Fridge and BARCS, where she rescued her adorable dog Taemin, a borgi—(border collie/
Chelsea with Taemin, her border collie/corgi mix rescued from BARCS.

corgi mix). She has enjoyed short trips to DC this summer and hopes to get back to the West Coast soon to visit friends. In terms of the wider world and dream destinations, she says, “I also haven’t used my passport since 2019, so I’m hoping to visit Mexico City, Seoul, and the Netherlands in the next few years.” Chelsea understands some Spanish, Korean, and ASL, and is working to eventually become proficient in all three.

Our thanks to Chelsea for sharing about herself and her work with Crab readers. If you have a suggestion for an MLA member to spotlight in a future Crab issue, please forward their name to julie.fitzpatrick@hclibrary.org. The Crab is looking forward to highlighting emerging leaders and unsung exemplars throughout MLA.

Meet Jennifer Jones!

The Crab is also excited to profile Jennifer Jones, Branch Manager at Harford County Public Library since 2011, who is in her second term as President of Public Services Division at MLA this year. Jennifer, whose first job was working in a greenhouse, started at HCPL in 2007 and previously worked at DC Public Library, Nancy Carson Library in South Carolina, and Sewickley Public Library in Pennsylvania. Jennifer received her MLS from The Catholic University of America. She is passionate about technology, including statistics, spreadsheets, Office and Google products, tools, and website coding, and how we can use these tools to make connections, improve efficiency, and better collaborate.

Jennifer has been involved with PSD for over ten years and says she has gained great friends and learned so much from networking, mentoring, sharing, and supporting each other. Her goals for this year are to continue to transition back to presenting in-person programs on topics that interest library staff and to use the new collaboration tool MLA Connect for networking and sharing. She is also very excited about an upcoming fall program with FOLIG on futuring and literacy. Jennifer says, “Literacy and lifelong learning are so crucial to successful communities, and I am interested to discuss how libraries can remain relevant influencers in these areas.”

Kate Monagan, Executive Assistant at MLA, recommended Jennifer for this month’s profile, saying, “She has made sure that PSD has officers every year - often taking positions herself to make sure that the division stays active. She coordinates wonderful programs throughout the year and sets up great ones for the annual conference. For the conference committee, she’s done a phenomenal job setting up and maintaining the website through Sched. This includes the programs and speaker bios as well as the vendor page.”

As part of the conference committee for 2021, Jennifer volunteered to work with Sched and Wix applications, learning and developing content for the online event.
For 2022, she led a website committee with Amy Miller-Meyers of Carroll County Public Library, helping the team learn the applications and creating a cohesive revamp of the design.

Nay Keppler, MLA President, says, "Jennifer has always been rock solid in MLA. She is full of ideas, experience, and knowledge and she has always strived for continuous improvement in the Public Services Division, and for MLA overall with her presence on Executive Board."

Asked about how libraries inspire or motivate her, Jennifer says, "We aren’t social workers, but ultimately our job is to help people. Libraries are all about connecting people to resources, education, entertainment, and community that makes their lives better and more meaningful. Helping people find what they want and need is rewarding."

In the wider community, Jennifer is a Chamber of Commerce Board member, where she assists with business and community events like networking events, Taste of Cheer, ThinkPink, Christmas Street, and Flags of Honor. She also serves as Regional Coordinator for the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA), Maryland Region.

As one might expect from a Jane Austen Society member, Jennifer cites *Pride and Prejudice* as a book that is "always" on her nightstand, and the 1995 BBC production of *Persuasion* featuring Amanda Root and Ciaran Hinds as her favorite film; when asked about a hidden talent or unusual fact about her, she says, "I am really good at running in heels and have sewn my own Regency wardrobe!" Jennifer also loves old British TV shows, mentioning *Monty Python*, *Allo! Allo!*, *Keeping Up Appearances*, and *Are You Being Served?* as particular favorites. Jennifer is a fan of 90s alternative music and Lithium is her favorite radio channel on Sirius/XM. She loves football and says, "I know it seems impossible, but it is true—oddly I am a Ravens and a Steelers fan."

Our thanks to Jennifer for sharing about herself and her work with *Crab* readers. If you have a suggestion for an MLA member to spotlight in a future *Crab* issue, please forward their name to julie.fitzpatrick@hclibrary.org. *The Crab* is looking forward to highlighting emerging leaders and unsung exemplars throughout MLA.
the Crab is published quarterly to inform MLA members about events, news and activities of interest to the Maryland library community. Subscriptions are $15 per year (4 issues). For subscription or advertising information, change of address, or extra issues, call the MLA office at 410-947-5090.

the Crab is published online at the MLA web site: [About the Crab](mailto:mla@mdlib.org)

Questions about MLA membership should be directed to the MLA office at mla@mdlib.org. Please address all other Crabby correspondence to: julie.fitzpatrick@hclibrary.org.

Deadlines for submissions
- Fall Issue: September 5
- Winter Issue: December 5
- Spring Issue: March 5
- Summer Issue: June 5

Crab Editors
- **Julie Fitzpatrick**, Editor
  Howard County Library System, 410-313-1950
- **Regina Rose**, Copy Editor
- **Amy L. Miller**, Copy Editor
  Carroll County Public Library, 410-386-4490
- **Robert Miller**, Copy Editor
  University of Maryland University College Library
- **Hannah Rosekrans**, Copy Editor
  Baltimore County Public Library

Art Director and production staff
- **Bucky Edgett**, Lucky Productions, Westminster MD 21158; 410-346-6925; luckypro.biz

Copyright © 2022 Maryland Library Association
1401 Hollins Street; Baltimore MD 21223
Voice: 410-947-5090; Fax: 410-947-5089
mla@mdlib.org

Keep up with MLA/ALA events...Share job openings...
Offer weeded items from your collection to others...**Ask a question!**

To subscribe to the list:
- Send a message to sympa@lists.umd.edu from the address you want to subscribe to the list. In the subject line of your message, type in: subscribe marylib Firstname Lastname (indicate your own first and last name). Leave the message body blank. When your request is accepted, the message you receive confirms your subscription to the list.

To post a message to the list:
- Address your message to marylib@lists.umd.edu.
  (When you reply to a message sent through the listserv, your message will go to everyone! Therefore, it might be a good idea to include your email address in the body of any messages you post to the list. In some systems, the reader won’t be able to see the address in the sender line. For private replies, send a separate message addressed to the original sender.)

To unsubscribe from the list:
- From the address with which you subscribed to the list, send a message to sympa@lists.umd.edu. In the subject line of your email, type in: unsubscribe marylib. Leave the message body blank.