

The Leader

New for 2006: Community Life Skills Program

The Darby Township Job Readiness and Computer Training/Literacy Program, a community service proposed by DTPL, will target local adult residents with a high school diploma or GED equivalent to prepare them for entry into the workforce, encourage advancement in current job positions, and instill perseverance through job longevity strategies.

The program is also designed to assist and direct in areas of employment, practical life and skills assessment and computer and literacy training, and will promote deftness in verbal, non-verbal and written communication.

The library hopes that through this program, local residents will gain basic tools to enter the educational and/or work environment and become viable members of our community. Additionally, through

team-building techniques, personal development skills and professional development training, it is hoped that the program will enhance self-esteem and encourage professional development.

To meet the challenges of most successful careers, a positive attitude and

professional appearance, in conjunction with computer education, is a necessity. Therefore, participants in the program will develop team building techniques, personal and professional decorum, aptitude to complete college and job applications, and skills to secure and maintain employment. Additionally, they will learn strategies for effectively balancing work and family life.

All classes in the program will take place in the Darby Township Public library building. There will be two 21-week sessions for each competency area (computers, literacy, personal

development, professional development and family life).

Computer, personal development, professional development and family life classes will last three hours a week, once a week, while the literacy program will meet for two hours once a week.

—By Rylene Landon



Stamp of Approval

Rapper Chuck D, the politically-conscious front man of Public Enemy, once complained that “most of my heroes don’t appear on no stamps.” Fortunately for African-Americans, things have changed.

The United States Postal Service now has a substantial collection of stamps featuring blacks. The line, called Black Heritage Commemorative Stamps, portrays a variety of people, including author Langston Hughes, Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr., and entrepreneur Madam C.J. Walker. Other stamps pay homage to jazz and Kwanzaa. The latest, a stamp of actress Hattie McDaniel, was released earlier this year.

Thanks to the efforts of E. Ethelbert Miller, an author and Howard University professor, living authors like Maya Angelou and Alex Haley have been portrayed on stamps in other countries. (As a rule, stamps issued in the U.S. only commemorate people who have died.)

—By Danielle Campbell-Angah



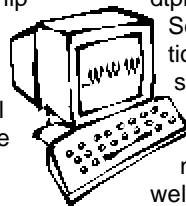
George Washington Carver, botanist. (U.S. Dept. of State)

See You in Cyberspace!

This spring, Darby Township Public Library will launch a Web site to provide information on the library, including upcoming events and services. Additionally, past issues of the *Darby Township Public Library Leader Newsletter* will be archived there.

In addition to keeping the Darby Township community up to date on library happenings, we will provide useful links to local, state and government resources on the Web site.

We also now have an



e-mail address: dtpl1903@yahoo.com.

Send us your questions, comments and suggestions.

We look forward to serving the community’s needs online, as well as in our “brick” location, at Clifton Avenue and Hook Road! —DCA

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HOURS OF OPERATION

- Monday: 2 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Tuesday: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Wednesday: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Thursday: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Saturday: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Staff Profile: Danielle Campbell-Angah Sees a Childhood Wish Become Reality

As a native of the community, Danielle Campbell-Angah was anxious to volunteer her publishing time and expertise to the Darby Township Public Library.

"I didn't have a library in the community to use for studying and leisure reading," said Campbell-Angah, who coordinates library communications, including the library's soon-to-go-live Web site. Growing up in Darby Township without a library, she had to visit libraries in other communities to complete research for school assignments.

"I remember going to the Sharon Hill, Collingdale, and even the Ridley Park libraries to research papers," said Campbell-Angah. "Those libraries are all great, but it would've been nice to have a library close by. I want to be a part of offering that for future generations."

Campbell-Angah hopes DTPL will have a positive impact on the Darby Township community.

"Knowledge is power, and I hope the library will become an information hub for community residents. Through the Internet, the volunteers and the programs we are organizing, I hope people young and old will come to DTPL to obtain information that will enrich their lives and empower them to live their lives to the fullest."

She notes that the library has something to offer everyone in our community and encourages everyone to check out DTPL for themselves. If your interest is in African American literature, mysteries, romance novels, cooking, medical conditions, business, educating children — or



just about anything else — there are books you can take home to serve your interests and needs, said Campbell-Angah. "We also have a variety of magazines for reading in the library, including *O, The Oprah Magazine, National Geographic, Time and Rolling Stone,*" she said, "so you can keep up on the latest trends in fashion, science, music and other areas."

One of the most popular services has to be the computers. Campbell-Angah has seen some people using Microsoft Word to put together résumés, while others use the Internet to get tax forms or read up on the latest news. "You can enjoy all of the amenities the Darby Township Public Library has to offer by signing up for a membership," Campbell-Angah stated. "Come in and take advantage of what your community library has to offer!"

—By Rylene Landon

Poetry Jam Happenings

Of Self

The imbalance steals my light and energy;
The imbalance and non-reciprocating stance
spoils my aura;

I must retreat in order to save SELF;
I must maintain a healthy SELF and environment;



I will refrain from any negative thoughts;

I deserve and demand equalization in my relationship with my mate;

I will always strive to make SELF happy;

I will always have balance in my relationship with my mate and not settle for less;

This, if not done for SELF will spoil my being;

I will always strive to have a healthy psyche;

I will always continue to nurture SELF

By Elaine Oglesby, 1984

Darby Township Public Library's Poetry Jam is still looking for people to share their soul-baring poetry. The Poetry Jam is held on the last Thursday of the month, from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, contact Elaine Oglesby, library director.

In addition to regular sessions, DTPL's Poetry Jam is sponsoring a Black History Month Poetry Contest. Members can enter by writing a rhyming poem on a historic African American figure born in the month of February. Entries are due on Tuesday, February 23; give your typed contest entry to the library employee on duty when you visit.

The winner will be announced on Tuesday, February 28, and will receive \$50 and recognition from the library.!

New Chess Club

Got game? Join the Darby Township Public Library Chess Club!

DTPL is looking for library members age 6 and older to join our new chess club.

Not a library member yet?

Sign up today! Don't know how to play

chess? Don't worry, we'll teach you!

The club will meet on Saturdays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; club members will learn the rules of chess and play games.

In the future, the library hopes to have the Chess Club team compete in tournaments with other Delaware County libraries. Sign the sheet at our circulation desk to join in on the fun!!



Not Just Books: Recap of 2005 Events

In addition to the wide selection of books and periodicals at DTPL, the library also holds free events that are open to the community. Two such events took place last year.

The first of these events featured Two of a Kind, a family act that sings interactive songs for children on a variety of subjects. Those who attended this event, held on August 13, saw David and Jenny Heitler-Klevans and their sons use guitars and drums to accompany their songs about libraries and reading.

The audience also got into the act, singing along when prompted by the Heitler-Klevanses and also following their lead on hand gestures that went

along with the songs.

On August 27, actress Daisy Nelson Century stopped by to do a historical interpretation of the life of Harriet Tubman, the

came Tubman, from her signature head wrap to the rifle she carried to protect herself and those under her care on the Underground Railroad.



The Heitler-Klevans family, aka Two of a Kind.

legendary 19th century emancipator of enslaved African Americans. During her performance, Century, who was dressed in period clothes be-

Transfixed by Century's performance, it was easy for the children and adults in attendance to envision the road to freedom from Maryland to Canada that Tubman traveled, first to free herself and then many times later to assist others who longed to be free, including her parents. The library is currently developing its calendar of events for 2006. Check with library staff for updates and be on the lookout for notices

posted in the local groceries and post offices for the exciting entertainers that DTPL will bring to the neighborhood next year!;

—By Danielle Campbell-Angah

DTPL Book Club

The Darby Township Public Library Book Club will begin meeting on the first Monday of the month later this year. All book club meetings will be held at the Darby Township

Public Library, at Clifton Avenue and Hook Road. Teenage members of the library are encouraged to sign up.

For more information, please ask for Ms. Beatrice Poe at the library.;



Helpful Hint

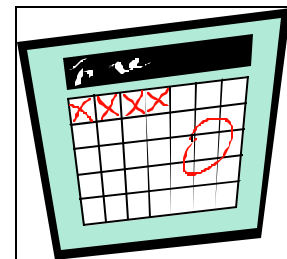
Ready to make a life change in 2006? There are two simple ways to stay committed to New Year's resolutions:

1. Turn your personal goals for the New Year into specific behaviors.

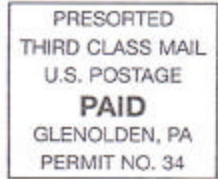
"Be as specific as possible," said Joshua Klapow, PhD, a clinical psychologist at University of Alabama at Birmingham. For example, you could plan to walk five minutes a day and increase the time by one minute each week.

2. Base resolutions on things you can actually do.

This is key since you're more likely to repeat behaviors in which you're successful. "Set short- and long-term target goals and ... track your progress by getting a calendar and marking every time you perform your new habit.;



"The more you read, the more chances to lead."



CARRIER ROUTE
PRESORT



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Staff Members

Elaine Oglesby, Director

Danielle Campbell-Angah, Communications Coordinator

Leslie Beckwith, Senior Library Volunteer

Rylene Landon, ___

Beatrice Poe, Senior Library Volunteer

Christian Trader, Library Volunteer

Carlotta Tyree, Senior Library Volunteer



Board Members

Beatrice Poe, Ward 1

Tamara Taliaferro, Ward 2

Jason Lewis, Ward 4



Board of Commissioners

Lawrence F. Patterson, President, 4th Ward

James Sandone, Vice President, 3rd Ward

Arnold Covert, 1st Ward

John Hennessy, 5th Ward

Lee Taliaferro, 2nd Ward

Township Manager: John B. Ryan

New at the Library!

We are now offering Notary Public services, as well as copy, typing and résumé services; desktop publishing (of brochures, newsletters and other items); and press release writing. Ask for Elaine



Oglesby or Danielle Campbell-Angah to start using these services, right in your community!

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

From the Director's Chair

I would like to begin this message by wishing everyone a very happy and healthy New Year.

Every New Year, we make New Year's resolutions.

Most times, we make these resolutions to change bad habits. Most times, we fail.

A resolution we can all keep, however, is to support Darby Township's first and only library. When I arrived in Darby Township in May of 1977, the township didn't have any activities for its citizens. We have come a long way.

It has been a long and difficult struggle. Don't let our struggles be for naught. The Darby Township Public Library has been organ-

ized and provided for all in Darby Township — youth, adults and seniors — basically anyone interested in improving his or her way of life.



The Darby Township Public Library has approximately 200 members and is steadily growing. We expect to develop many wonderful programs for the betterment of the community.

Please make it your New Year's resolution to support our library. And remember: The more you read, the more chances you have to lead.!

To God Be the Glory!
—Elaine H. Oglesby, Director

The opinions expressed in this Director's Chair column are those of the Director and not necessarily those of the Darby Township government.

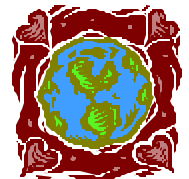
Last Word

Though his life was short, Matthew Joseph Thaddeus Stepanek embodied what love should be. Affectionately known as "Mattie," and revered by Oprah Winfrey, former President Jimmy Carter and Maya Angelou, among others, Stepanek had a positive and loving attitude about life despite being wheelchair-bound by a form of muscular dystrophy.

In his nearly 14 years of life, Stepanek released six books of poetry and a CD of inspirational music.

Most of his poetry centered around his concept of "heart-song," the energy inside of all of us that makes us want to be better people and reach out to others.

In the spirit of Mattie, consider ways you can be loving to everyone this Valentine's Day. —DCA



"The more you read, the more chances to lead."