

**Special points of interest:**

- One Maryland/One Book Project
- Featured Database
- FDLP Program

**In this issue:**

Editor's Message	1
Researching & College	1
One MD/One Book	1
Featured Database	2
Display Your Collection in the Library	2
What is the FDLP?	3
Business as Usual	4
Library Hours & Contacts	4

## Message from the Editors

Welcome back!! The HCC Library newsletter begins its second year with this issue. The contents include an article detailing a library school student's experiences as an intern here last spring, an item on the Library's status as a federal government document depository, and a piece on college vs. high school research.

Regular features such as the Featured Database and New Books are also included, as well as information on various projects and initiatives the Library is currently involved in. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did putting it together.



Mary Somers  
Reference Librarian

Melissa Harris  
Instructional Resource Technician

## Researching and College or From T-ball to the Pros

As you left your high school, you left the security of the loud bells warning the teachers to let the class leave, the one building that housed the entire school, the special teacher or administrator who thought of you with a smile, and the one room library. Now as you search for a parking space, search for the correct buildings, or search for that special instructor, you must also search for a book, journal article, or the perfect web site. The days of a one-room library are over. Welcome to the HCC Library,

brought to you on three floors. You've gone from T-ball to the Pros.

So how does one research in the Pros? The most important step is the first step: knowing exactly what your topic is. Once that is decided, you are ready to hit the Library Catalog for books, DVD's, videos, and government documents, the Online Databases for magazine/journal articles, the Internet for web sites—and don't forget the Reference Desk on the second floor for researching advice from a librarian. The

skills you learned in high school are the same set of skills you'll use in college. You will learn to expand those skills, and there will always be someone close by to help you, if you need it.

Come by and visit us, call us from home if that is where you are doing your research (410-836-4131) or email us at [Referenc@harford.edu](mailto:Referenc@harford.edu). Mrs. Mary Somers, Mrs. Patti Pfau, Mrs. Pam Schott, Mrs. Janis Jordan, Mrs. Margie Bandy, and Mrs. Pam Sarno are all waiting to throw you your first pitch in the Pros.

## One Maryland/One Book

What if all five million Marylanders read the same great book at the same time? That is the question being asked by The Maryland Center for the Book.

One Maryland/One Book is Maryland's first statewide community reading project. The HCC Library, in conjunction with HCC's

Continuing Education and Training Division and the Harford County Public Library (HCPL), is proud to be a participant.

According to the Maryland Center for the Book, a program of the Maryland Humanities Council, the selected book, *A Hope in the Unseen: An American*

*Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League* by Ron Suskind, is rich and multilayered. It was selected not only because it offers the opportunity to discuss important and highly relevant topics such as education and socioeconomics, but also because it presents the

(continued on page 2)

## Featured Database CQ Researcher Online



Sometimes picking a topic for a research paper is one of the more difficult things about writing a paper! The Reference Librarians can suggest a number of resources to help you pick a topic, including the online database CQ Researcher Online.

CQ Researcher is published in both online and paper formats each week. Each issue is devoted to a topic of current interest in such subjects as health, social trends, criminal justice, international affairs, education, the environment, technology, and the economy. Recent issues

have focused on mass transit, recycling, Iran, the mortgage crisis, immigration issues, and oceans in crisis.

Do a Quick Search using the search box in the center of the screen, or use the Browse by Topic link located on the left side of the screen to see a list of broad subject categories. Select a more specific category to pull up a list of issues that have addressed topics related to your interest.

CQ Researcher Online can also be an excellent source of information to use in writing your paper.

In addition to an overview and background information on the topic, there is an assessment of the current situation, useful tables and maps, pro/con statements about a question related to the topic, and a selective list of related articles.

As with other HCC online databases, CQ Researcher Online can be searched from your home computer by using the 14-digit number found on the back of your HCC photo ID card as the password.

Pam Schott  
Reference Librarian

## One Maryland/One Book (cont'd)

opportunity to talk about race and race relations in Maryland and in America.

Copies of the book will be available for borrowing at the HCC Library and for purchase at the College Store. In addition, HCPL has given us 45 copies of the book to distribute across campus. You may read the book and pass it on to a friend, relative or neighbor.

We invite you to join a lively facilitated book discussion

that will take place on Monday, October 6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Chesapeake Center. The subject of the book, Cedric Jennings, has been invited. In addition, there will be light refreshments, book sales and door prizes.

If you're unable to attend that event, HCPL is sponsoring a book discussion that is open to the public at the Jarrettsville Branch on Saturday, October 18 at

2:00 p.m. The Jarrettsville Branch is located at 3722 Norrisville Road. For further information, call 410-692-7887.

There will also be an opportunity to express your opinion on the One Maryland/One Book blog that will be on the HCC Library website.

For further information, call 410-836-4131.

*Check out the  
HCC Library  
Blog at  
<http://hcclibrary.blogspot.com/>*



## Display Your Collection in the Library

What do elephants, teapots and video games have in common? All three are collected by members of the campus community and were displayed in the Library display cases.

The world of collectibles is huge and collectors enjoy having an opportunity to share their passion. If you have a collection to exhibit, please contact Janis Jordan at ext. 7237 for further details.

The display cases also provide high visibility for upcoming campus events and College clubs. We've featured displays on Phi Theta Kappa, International Education Week, and Study Abroad. Call ext. 7237 if we can help your marketing efforts with a Library display.

## What is the FDLP? What is a Depository Library?



On your trips inside the HCC Library, you've seen two red, white, and blue eagle window decals on the doors that say "Depository Library" and "Electronic Depository." You may have even noticed this same eagle logo at the bottom of the HCC Library webpage. What does it mean?

HCC's Library is one of 64 selective federal depositories in a region of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. We are part of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), in which the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) disseminates information from government agencies to federal depository libraries nationwide. In this way, the GPO "Keeps America Informed" as the American people are given free access to government information. Harford Community College Library is one of only three community college library federal depositories in this region. It is the only Federal

Depository Library in the 2nd congressional district which covers Harford, Cecil, and northern Baltimore counties. In 2007 our depository library celebrated 40 years in the FDLP; we received certificates from the Government Printing Office, Harford County Government, and the County Council of Harford County.

The Library currently selects about 15% of the total number of government documents eligible for item selection. Our item selection is based on the needs of our patrons to support academic curriculum and the community. Formats for the items we select include print, CD, microfiche, and electronic. All government documents are circulating material.

You will find the majority of the Government Documents collections on the second floor of the Library. These documents are located in areas designated by the red, white, and blue eagle FDLP decals. Many of our government documents are also available electronically.

All items from the Government Printing Office through the FDLP are free of charge.

On June 11, 2008, a film crew from the Government Printing Office visited our depository library, interviewed Government Documents Library staff, and took film footage of our collection for inclusion in the GPO's upcoming new series of FDLP promotional videos as part of their new FDLP Marketing Plan. Entitled "Easy as FDL. Federal Depository Libraries: Free Information. Dedicated Service. Limitless Possibilities," these promotional videos will be available at <http://www.fdlp.gov> in fall 2008.

For more information about the Federal Depository Library Program, see the new Federal Depository Library Directory at: <http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp>.

Andrea Craley  
Library Specialist  
Government Documents & ILL

*HCC's Library is one of only three community college federal depositories in this region.*



# Business As Usual

When I started working as an intern at the Library at HCC, I thought it might be like any other field study for library school, full of scary challenges and complete unfamiliarity with the landscape. Now, here I am, nearly finished my hours of work, and I am finding that yes, it was scary and some of it was unfamiliar, but all in all, it was easy to adapt and feel comfortable. This was largely due to the warmth of the staff and the students themselves.

The primary users of the Library, of course, are the students. They presented some of the most challenging questions I've encountered outside of tests on reference work at graduate school. They have provided me with reasons to stretch fully in my search skills. What database should I use? Which resources would be the best for this? What journals will lead me to a great article for this student? What exactly should I be searching for, and how should I do it?

The important point to remember is that the resources at HCC's Library are deep enough for students to complete their research projects with confidence, using solid sources or books, journals, and databases. And with access to the Internet, of course, students have a rich world of information to explore right in the reading room.

Tempted to use Google and Wikipedia, students may find that these might be terrific resources for a broad overview of a subject or a beginning place, but the more in-depth information might be more easily accessed through a journal article or a database. Try the Reference Shelf on the Library's homepage for a selection of useful computer resources – databases, dictionaries, tutorials, style manuals, and so much more. The Reference Shelf has more clarity and direction than the endless list of hits a Google search might provide. Or take a look at the Internet Subject Guide to lead you to a movie summary or business news or global studies.

So give it a try. Just take a few moments to tour the Library home page, clicking into items on the left menu and get familiar with one of the best resources you will find in your college career – your Library at HCC.

Donna L. Sebly  
HCC Library Intern  
University of Maryland  
College of Library and Information Studies

## Contact Information

Circulation Desk  
Library, 2nd floor  
circdesk@harford.edu  
410-836-4268

Reference Desk  
Library, 2nd floor  
referenc@harford.edu  
410-836-4131

Digital Library Desk  
Library, 1st floor  
online@harford.edu  
410-836-4256

## Fall 2008 Library Hours

*September 2 - December 15*

Monday—Thursday	7:30 a.m.—10:00 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Exceptions & Reminders:

November 27 & 28                      CLOSED

Newsletter Editors: Mary Somers, Reference Librarian & Melissa Harris, Instructional Resource Technician