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From the Local History Room: The 150th Anniversary of Frederick Douglass’ Visit to Newburgh

A marker at the AME Zion Church, a rare photo of the opera house where Frederick Douglass spoke (the present
In just 5 years from the passage of the 13th Amendment ending slavery, two more momentous civil rights amendments were enacted. The passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution on July 28, 1868 made African-Americans citizens of the United States. Less than two years later, on Feb. 3, 1870, the 15th Amendment granted African American men the right to vote.

In celebration of the successful passage of the 15th Amendment, abolitionist and AME minister Frederick Douglass conducted a national speaking tour; and, on August 11, 1870, he came to Newburgh. An estimated that 4,000 people came here to listen to him at the opera house. The library /BOE complex now encompasses the property where the opera house once stood. He also took part in a march on Washington Street and visited the AME Zion church.

Today, the 150th Anniversary of his visit, a Frederick Douglass in Newburgh Walking Tour Map of Newburgh is available on the City of Newburgh’s website.

By Heather Georghiou, Local History Librarian

Community News

The Newburgh Arts & Cultural Study (NACS) is the first comprehensive inventory and assessment of the diverse arts and culture ecology in Newburgh, NY. Guided by a group of community-based advisors, they are engaging residents from all neighborhoods and sectors to gather qualitative and quantitative data, and create an inventory of the broad range of arts-and-cultural activities and
destinations in the city.

Whether you like making art, you earn a creative living, or you just enjoy experiencing art, you are a vital part of the Newburgh cultural ecosystem and they want to hear from you!

Join them on Thursday August 6, 6-7:30pm to share your ideas! This workshop will be held on Zoom. They will share the Zoom login details to you prior to the workshop.

*** Please forward this invitation to others in the arts and creative business community***

For more information, visit newburghculture.org.

Checkout recordings of webinars, and resources for the community on their website!

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**Children, Teens, and Families**

There are still a few weeks of Summer Reading programming happening through August 21! Check the calendar for virtual programs for babies to teens and all ages in between! Story times, read-alouds, Page Turner Adventures, crafts, book discussions, science and storytelling games are all part of the fun. Did you miss something? Programs from earlier in the summer can also be found on the Virtual Program Guide.
Kids! Start Reading Now!

Borrow “Plants vs. Zombies Vol. 12: Dino-Might” by Paul Tobin available on hoopla and plan to attend a Zoom book discussion on Thursday, August 13, at 1 p.m. Send email to csandroff@rcls.org by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12 to receive the meeting invite and link.

Teens Talk book club at 3 p.m. on August 3 is an open book share to talk about whatever you’ve been reading and get some recommendations to last the rest of the summer! You can also start reading for the following week’s discussion on August 10 of “Symphony for the City of the Dead” by M.T. Anderson, available on hoopla, about the two and a half year siege of Leningrad by Nazi forces during WWII and the musical composition Dmitri Shostakovich wrote to inspire and commemorate the survivors from the city, now known as St. Petersburg, Russia. To join the discussions, send an email to lkochik@rcls.org by 10 a.m. on Monday.

Camp Kindergarten: Math and Science Program

Summer Reading for Adults
Have you completed the #NewburghStrong Summer Challenge yet? Adults, ages 18+ are encouraged to complete a [Summer Challenge Card](#) before August 21 by attending our [Virtual Programs](#), reading books, supporting local businesses, and visiting and taking selfies with community landmarks! Completing missions as detailed on the challenge card gives you a chance to win a gift card to a local business, courtesy of the Friends of the Newburgh Free Library! You can track your completed reading and missions using [ReadSquared](#) or print the [Summer Challenge Card](#) and return it to the Library once we are open to the public. Visit the [2020 Summer Challenge](#) page for more information.
Newburgh Free Library is hosting "Journey to Freedom," a year-long series of arts, cultural and educational programs, inspired by the courage, vision and strength of the American abolitionist and political activist, Harriet Tubman. This sculpture of Harriet Tubman by award-winning artist Wesley Wofford will be on display in front of the Newburgh Free Library from October 12 to December 12, 2020. For more information, please visit our website at www.newburghlibrary.org. Funded in part by Humanities New York.
See our Virtual Program Guide and e-calendar for these and many more virtual programs for youth and adults. We will be adding videos and other online content on a regular basis, so check back here often for fun, informative and creative content.

Youth Services Program Videos

Preschool Story Time with Ms. Carol week 7

Can You Picture This week 3
Adult Services Program Videos

- Grant Seeking Basics
- 2 Minute Tech Support - Parental Controls
- Two Minute Tech Support - Google Earth
- Code Switch: Elevating the Experiences of BIPOC Women in Tech

Upcoming Events
SAME PAGE
GRAPHIC NOVEL
BOOK CLUB

August 6th  6 p.m.

Diverse Voices
Book Club

FRESHWATER
BY
AKWAEKE
EMEZE
August 12  7 p.m.
Registration Required

Discussion led by
Crystal Donkor, Ph.D

Get Help at Home
Connect to Live Help Monday-Friday from 9 am to 5 pm with our new Google Voice numbers!

**Ask-a-Librarian**
For help during our closure, contact us at 845-391-0672 or nflref@rcls.org.

For questions about books, items you may have checked-out, digital library cards and fines, contact the Circulation Dept. at 845-391-0005 or jthomas@rcls.org.

**Tech Support**
For Android or Kindle devices, call Wayne at 845-391-3724;
For Apple devices, call Sue at 845-293-0950;
For laptops, call Frank at 845-391-0995.
OR email suescott@rcls.org with a description of the problem, device, product (app), and any error messages.

**NEW:** Visit our You Tube Channel for new series of videos called 2 Minute Tech Support.

**Free Resume Review**
Send a copy of your resume in Microsoft Word to Beth at bzambito@rcls.org for review and suggested improvements.
Expect a response within 24 hours.

**COME TO YOUR CENSUS, NEWBURGH!**
"It takes just 10 minutes to effect your next 10 years...."
If you haven't yet be sure to complete your census form! Help secure funding...
Fill out the Census TODAY!!

and representation in government for your community!

Click here: 2020census.gov

STAY CONNECTED

WE’RE THINKING OF YOU

YOUR FRIENDS AT THE NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY