

## **Friday Night Live @ Your Library**

**WHAT: Blues Guitar**

**WHO: Chris English**

**WHEN: Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 - 8:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Wicomico Public Library, Room 1**

Chris English will perform traditional blues, original music, at Friday Night Live on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Main Library.

Chris English was born and raised in Salisbury and started playing guitar at age 11. His older brother introduced him to the blues in the late 1960s, during his high school years. Chris concentrated on slide guitar and harmonica at this time teaching himself, using open tunings.

Chris is now primarily performing as a solo act, playing traditional and acoustic blues. He has an authentic style of playing. Over the years he has been true to his art learning the subtleties that make each blues special. His performances are both intense and spiritual releases. His dad calls him preacher man. Delta style is his forte, singing, playing guitar and harp, stamping out the time on an old wooden coca cola crate, creating the subtle polyrhythms and powerful vocals that comprise this elusive form. He also uses vintage guitars from the '30's to replicate the sound and feeling of the blues he has studied and loves.

Chris released his second CD, "Lowdown in the House", in July 2004. This is a live, solo, collection of traditional and original blues. His first CD, recorded in 1996, "Live at the Avalon", is a combination of solo and band work. His three-piece band, Brother

Lowdown, was formed in 1986. Both CD's were co-produced and engineered by Jim Smith of Muddy Hole Studios.

Currently, Chris is teaching a course in Blues, that he created, at Salisbury University, Salisbury MD, titled "Blues, the Roots of Rock and Roll". This lecture course explores the social and economic climate that shaped the music as well as the musicians that crafted the music. The course includes live performances to demonstrate different styles of blues, and will serve to further Chris in his own education of the blues.

For more information on this event or other library services, visit us on the web at [www.wicomicolibrary.org](http://www.wicomicolibrary.org) or call 410-749-3612. Programs are free and open to the public.

Friday Night Live is sponsored by Peter and Judy Jackson; and made possible, in part, by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council, awarded by the Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Wicomico Public Library: Supporting Learning, Building Community, Enriching Lives!

###