

# THRALL LIBRARY TIMES

*Information and Events at Middletown Thrall Library*

FALL 2006 NEWSLETTER

"Books permit us to voyage through time,  
to tap the wisdom of our ancestors." - Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*

## FROM KEVIN J. GALLAGHER MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY DIRECTOR

### Library Board Approves Proposed Budget for 2007

At their meeting of September 13th, the Thrall Public Library District of Middletown & Wallkill approved the proposed 2007 budget. The budget of \$2,694,433 represents an increase of 4% over the 2006 operating budget. It provides for increases in the Materials budget, to allow us to continue to meet demands for new materials for children and adults, in both print and non-print formats. There is also funding to cover anticipated increases in utilities, personnel costs, building maintenance, and insurance. The proposed budget calls for a 4.5% increase in the library tax levy. Copies of the proposed budget are available in the library, or on the website at [www.thrall.org](http://www.thrall.org). If you have any questions about the library district budget, please call Library Director Kevin J. Gallagher at 341-5485, or via e-mail at [thrall7@warwick.net](mailto:thrall7@warwick.net). The public vote on the library district budget will be held on Tuesday, October 3rd, at the library. All registered voters in the Thrall Public Library District chartered service area are eligible to vote. Polling will take place from 8:00am-8:00pm.

### Town of Wallkill Bookdrop Is Open Once More!

Thanks to the efforts to the Town of Wallkill Department of Public Works staff, the bookdrop has been moved to the new Town office location at 99 Tower Dr. It is available for the drop off of print materials only. No DVDs, CDs, recorded books, or videocassettes should be placed in the bookdrop to avoid damage to those items. The bookdrop will be emptied once a week, on Fridays, so please get materials there before they are overdue! Again, our thanks to the Town of Wallkill staff for their help with the move and reinstallation of the bookdrop.

## MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, NY 10940

KEVIN J. GALLAGHER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Telephone: (845) 341-5485 E-mail: [thrall7@warwick.net](mailto:thrall7@warwick.net)

### Library Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 8 PM, Friday: 9 AM - 6 PM

Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM, Sunday: 1 - 5 PM

(Summer: Saturdays, 10 - 2 pm; Sundays, Closed)

Main Desk: (845) 341-5454 Reference Librarians: 341-5461

Children's Dept.: 341-5470 Local History: 341-5483

For more news and free services go to [www.Thrall.org](http://www.Thrall.org)

## FROM THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT MARY SUSAN FLANNERY CLIMES, HEAD OF REFERENCE

### Many New Web Services at [www.Thrall.org](http://www.Thrall.org)

We are excited to announce a number of major expansions and newly available services at our library's website. They include:

**Booklovers:** Our popular reader's advisory guide has been completely revised and expanded to include even more helpful and entertaining links for readers in search of new materials.

**Request a Reading Plan** - A free reader's advisory service available to Thrall patrons. Tell us what you like, and we'll recommend some titles just for you!

**Reference:** Our Reference Department has a new home page, as does our **Children's Department**.

**Computer Services:** A new page summarizing Thrall's electronic resource services for library staff and patrons.

**Documents:** An expanded list of downloadable flyers and other informational items often available in print at the library.

**Downloads:** Convenient links to freely downloadable software and other items on the web such as eBooks and eAudio Books. Free office productivity software, art programs, plug-ins, document viewers, games, and more are just a few clicks away!

**Help Pages** - A new Frequently Asked Questions section and online support for all the services we provide at Thrall.

**InterJob Search** - A revised edition of our job and career resource guide

**Privacy Statement** - A reassuring explanation of Thrall.org's stance on user privacy and unsolicited e-mail.

**Ready Reference Guide:** Many new categories and links!

**Site Map** - An alphabetical list of all major areas of our site.

**Special Coverage Center** - Expanded to include such hot topics as Global Warming, Global Pandemics, Censorship, Identity Theft, Social Networking, and more.

**Subject Explorer** - Restored and expanded. Browse our online library catalog through Thrall's own extensive list of popular subject links. Explore the catalog like never before!

Many other substantial or subtle updates are being made constantly throughout our website as we endeavor to be your number one resource for information on or off the Internet.

Remember, these services are all **freely available to you**, so please take full advantage of them and tell others about them!

## FROM THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LIBRARIAN: “AND THAT’S NOT ALL!”



Thanks to some new shelving units, the library is now able to display more current editions of its extensive magazine collection. There are now 155 titles out there, including a separate section highlighting Sports and Hobbies, Craft magazines displayed near the craft books, all Spanish magazines near the Spanish Collection and Government titles at the end of the filing cabinets near the Periodicals Room.

If you can not find a title you are looking for, remember that the library still has 146 titles that are not on display! Some of these include: *Architectural Digest*, *The Craft Report*, *Family Handyman*, *Hudson River Valley Review*, *Spin*, *Harper's*, *Horticulture*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Paris Review*, *Theology Today*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *The Writer*, *Science*, *New Statesman*, *Golf Magazine*, *Art News* and more.

If you know a terrific title that we don't own, please let us know!

### Expanded: Reader's Advisory Center and Reader's Advisory Services Online

In our ongoing commitment to make Thrall the best possible resource to you as a reader, we have expanded our Reader's Advisory resources, created some new ones, and are excited to tell you about these recent developments!

As you might know, Reader's Advisory materials help you find books. What kinds of books? Virtually any book you like to read! If you like a particular style of writing, or a specific author, or just were looking for "something good to read," these are the kinds of freely available services at Thrall you can use to connect yourself with new exciting and informative books.

Our Reader's Advisory Center, located in the Reference Department, has doubled in size and has been reorganized to make it easier for you to locate books and authors you might enjoy. You may browse by genre, time period, subject, reading age level, and other categories. Our librarians encourage you to come to the Reference Department to explore this area and to ask us for assistance in locating new reading materials, whether it's for your reading pleasure or professional gain.

By the Reader's Advisory Center you will also find an assortment of free bookmarks containing suggestions for genres and authors. Examples include *Classic Mysteries*, *Contemporary Romance*, *True Adventure*, *Gentle Reads*, and *Science Fiction*. Some of Thrall's own publications and upcoming program flyers are also available in this area.

At [www.Thrall.org](http://www.Thrall.org) we have created new free reader's advisory guides and services for your enjoyment and enrichment.

Other recent developments include a new topical book display by the library catalog computers, and new and expanded periodical displays of popular magazines and journals the library subscribes to on your behalf. These displays are located by the new books, the library catalog computers, near the Government Information area, as well as by the Large Print and Spanish books section.

If at any point you have any questions or want some suggestions, please come to Reference, or call us at 341-

5461 or 341-5462, or consider using our free Ask a Librarian service to send us questions over the Internet.

## “Self-Improvement” Display & Guides

In honor of "Self-Improvement Month" we created a display in the library (near the catalog computers) and guides, on the web and in print, to finding books to help you improve your private and professional lives. On the web you can go to [thrall.org/docs](http://thrall.org/docs) to download a printable guide or go to [thrall.org/special](http://thrall.org/special) and find “Self-Help” links to items within our library catalog as well as information on the Internet. At this very moment you can begin taking steps toward the life you always dreamed of by taking advantage of our free services!

## FASCINATING FICTION

Here are the dates and titles for our Fall 2006 book discussion series:

Sept. 27th: *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson

Oct. 11th: *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf

Oct. 25th: *Peace Like A River* by Leif Enger

Nov. 8th: *Ladies Auxiliary* by Mirvis Tova

Copies of books are available for borrowing. Please call us at 341-5479 for more information.

### *Save Me a Place at Forest Lawn* Starring Sheila Glenn & Sara Simas

Thrall and the Friends of Middletown Thrall Library, Inc. present a free performance of Lorees Yerby's one act play at Thrall on Sept. 24th, 2-3:30 PM, in the Community Room.

### It's Holiday Time: *A Flower Arranging Demonstration*

Friends of Middletown Thrall Library, Inc. and Thrall invite you to this program in which renown floral arranger Cathy Miller will create three beautifully unique arrangements. Wednesday, October 18th, 7-8:30 PM. Refreshments served.

### New Children's Department Programs

Please stop by the Children's Department to pick up our new program flyer, or call 341-5470 to learn about upcoming events, which are also posted in the News section of [www.Thrall.org](http://www.Thrall.org). Registration begins Monday, September 25th for all patrons with active RCLS library cards, which must be presented when registering. Registration times are Monday - Thursday: 9 AM to 8 PM. Friday: 9 AM to 6 PM. Please contact us if you are not able to attend a session.

### *Reel Eclectic: Cinema for Connoisseurs* The 2006 Art & Foreign Film Series at Thrall

Please call 341-5479 to learn about the next film to be shown in this series on shown on Thursday, October 5, 2006 7 PM in the 2nd Floor Community Room at Thrall. Other film dates for 2006: November 2, December 7