

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Winter 2011 Issue

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant." Anne Bradstreet

From Matt Pfisterer

New Director of Middletown Thrall Library

Greetings Thrall Library Patrons!

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Matt Pfisterer, and following the retirement of Kevin Gallagher, I became the new director of Thrall Library on January 3, 2011.

It is very exciting for me to have the opportunity to work with a fantastic group of Library Trustees, professional Librarians and Library support staff that is committed to providing excellent library materials and services to our community.

I have also been impressed by the incredible Friends of Thrall Middletown Library's bookstore and the wonderful winter/spring music series they have planned for 2011.

My number one priority is to maintain the quality of library services that the community has come to expect and to be responsive to the ever changing information needs of the community.

Next time you are at the Library, stop by the director's office and say hello or e-mail (thrall7@warwick.net) with questions, or comments.

You might want to ask me why the mummy came to the library or how many librarians does it take to screw in a light bulb. I will be happy to answer those questions and tell you about all of the great things happening at the library.

Middletown Thrall Library

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Matt Pfisterer, Library Director

Library Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9 AM – 8 PM
Fri: 9 AM - 6 PM *Sat: 10 AM – 5 PM *Sun: 1 – 5 PM

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

Youth Services: 341-5470 **Local History:** 341-5483

Adult Programs and Book Discussions: 341-5454, ext. 5479

For more news and free services, please visit www.thrall.org.

From Our Head of Reference Mary Susan Flannery Climes

African-American History Resources

www.thrall.org/blackhistorymonth

In honor of Black History Month 2011, we have revised and expanded our online African-American History resource guide for readers and researchers of all ages.

Our pathfinder includes recent and notable works by and about African-Americans throughout history, from the past to contemporary times. Also provided are subject headings you can use to discover other materials, such as books (fiction or nonfiction) and videos, within our local library system. A number of related Web-based resources can also be explored through our guide.

Philosophy Collection Expansion

Over the past year we have expanded our philosophy and ethics (moral philosophy) collections to include numerous new, interesting, and informative titles. Some works, such as those from "Blackwell's Philosophy and Pop Culture series," approach key philosophical topics through familiar stories and movies such as *Harry Potter*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Terminator*, and *Star Trek*. For more titles and an extended overview of recent additions, please visit our **Reference Service** blog at www.thrall.org/blogs

eBook Readers

If you are interested in eBooks, one of the first questions you might ask is "which eBook readers should I get?" There are many to choose from, and not all are compatible with the free RCLS eBooks service (please see www.thrall.org/ebooks for more details).

To help you understand the key considerations in getting an eBook reader, we posted a new guide at our website: "**Choosing an eBook Reader**" (please see the **eBooks** section at www.thrall.org/docs).

As a general reminder, eBook readers are *not* required in order to view RCLS eBooks: you can use your *own* computer (desktop or laptop) if you have one!

(from the **Head of Reference** continued)

Sign Up for a Free *Universal Class!*

Middletown Thrall Library has established a new license enabling us to offer members of our library free access to Universal Class, a service where you can attend free courses over the Internet.

Some key points about this service:

- It is free to active members of Middletown Thrall Library (a library card is required).
- You can attend classes and complete assignments on your own schedule.
- Each course has a real instructor you can communicate with via e-mail.
- You can enroll yourself up to 5 courses.
- You have up to six months to finish each course.
- You can access courses at any time over the Internet.
- These are non-college-credit courses provided for your personal enrichment.
- Many courses offer Continuing Education Units.

For more information, please go to our Databases page (www.thrall.org/databases) and click on the "Online Courses" link.

Upcoming Events at Thrall:

"Rendezvous with Treason"

Bringing the Arnold-Andre Conspiracy to Life

Tuesday, February 22, 2011, 7-8 PM

in our 2nd Floor Community Room

Meet this country's most-intriguing anti-hero! Spend Tuesday evening (Washington's birthday!) with the two men who tried to bring down the cause for American Independence.

Chat with our nation's most notorious traitor, Benedict Arnold. Learn about Major John Andre and his aspirations to rise through the ranks in the King's Army and the motivation behind Benedict Arnold's eventual treason. Actors, Gary Petagine and Sean Grady, dressed in period costumes, bring Arnold and Andre to life in an entertaining, interactive, and dramatic play.

Photo opportunities, question and answers, and refreshments will follow this free program which all ages should enjoy!

This program was made possible by The Friends of Middletown Thrall Library, Inc.

"Reel Eclectic" Film Series

Our series of independent and international films continues in 2011 on the following dates at **7 PM**:

January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5,
June 2, July 7, August 4, September 1,
October 6, November 3, December 1

"Afternoon Movies for Grown-Ups" 2011

Our series of "something for everyone" films continues in 2011 on the following dates at **2 PM**:

January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20,
May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21,
October 19, November 16, December 21.

Upcoming Children's Events

Story Time 2011 Schedule

Registration: **January 18th - February 8th**

Story time events are held on Wednesdays
February 16th - March 23rd:

"**First Step**" Stories (18-35 months): **9:30 – 10 AM**

"**Three to Get Ready & Four to Go!**" (ages 3 – 4)
10:15 – 10:45 AM

"**Moving Up**" (ages 5-7). **4:15 – 5 PM.**

"Go Getters" Book Club

Kids, we invite you to join us in the Children's Department for fun and interesting talks about books!

Ages 6 & 7: February 8, 4:15 - 5:15 PM
February 15, 4:15 - 5:15 PM

Ages 8 & 9: February 8, 4:15 - 5:15 PM
February 15, 4:15 - 5:15 PM
March 1, 4:15 - 5:15 PM
March 8, 4:15 - 5:15 PM

Registration is required. Space is limited! For more information, please visit us or call (845) 341-5470.

"Come Draw with Me"

Express your creativity by attending our popular "Come Draw with Me" series in the Children's Department. This program is held on Saturdays for ages 7 to 12. There is a program limit of 15 participants, who must be Middletown Thrall Library card holders. Registration is required on the day of each program. Here is the schedule of themes for 2011:

January 8, 12 – 1 PM: "Candles"
February 5, 12 - 1 PM: "Spider Web Design"
March 5, 1 - 2 PM: "Unicorns"
April 2, 1 - 2 PM: "Angels"
May 7, 1 - 2 PM: "Rainbows"
June 4, 12 - 1 PM: "Circus"
July 9, 12 - 1 PM: "N.Y.C."
August 6, 12 - 1 PM: "Red Cardinals"
September 10, 12 - 1 PM: "Yellow School Bus"
October 8, 1 - 2 PM: "Frankenstein"
November 5, 1 - 2 PM: "Cornucopia"
December 3, 12 - 1 PM: "Doves"