

# *Thrall Library Times*

*Information and Events at Middletown Thrall Library*

P U B L I S H E D   A P R I L   1 8 ,   2 0 0 8

*"Great discoveries and improvements invariably involve  
the cooperation of many minds." Alexander Graham Bell*

## **FROM KEVIN J. GALLAGHER MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

### **New Trustee Joins Library Board**

Lois Ruckert has been appointed by the Thrall Public Library District Board of Trustees to fill a vacancy created by a resignation in December, 2007. Ms. Ruckert officially joined the Board at their March meeting, held on March 12th. She is Literacy Specialist in the Academic Intervention Services program for the Pine Bush Central School District. Ms. Ruckert was also very active in the community efforts to expand the library district's service area to include the Town of Wallkill. Her term will run through the end of this year. She is eligible to run for a full term in this fall's elections, which will be held on October 7th.

### **More Help from the Friends!**

The Children's Room will soon have three new computers for children to use, thanks to the efforts of the Friends of Middletown Thrall Library. The new computers will feature a variety of educational software, word processing, and games for young library users and will replace some older ones that had broken down beyond repair. The Friends Board has also approved a new annual appropriation to be used for the purchase of independently produced and foreign films to be added to the library's collection. This new commitment will allow the library to build on its existing collection, which was started through the generosity of a donation from former Mayor Gertrude Mokotoff.

### **Did You Know about Our Home Delivery Service?**

Middletown Thrall Library offers a free home delivery service to individuals who live within the library district, but are unable to come to the library to borrow materials. The service is intended for people who do not have the ability to get to the library, and do not have a friend or family member who can borrow items for them. Deliveries are made once every four weeks. Anything that can be borrowed on site is available for home delivery: books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, videocassettes. If interested, please call me at 341-5485.

### **MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY**

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, NY 10940

KEVIN J. GALLAGHER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

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

**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

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

## **FROM THE HEAD OF REFERENCE MARY SUSAN FLANNERY CLIMES**

### **NEW FREE WEB SERVICE: LEARN A LANGUAGE!**

Thrall now subscribes to the award-winning "Tell Me More" language learning service, enabling our patrons to learn foreign languages for free, right through our website! For more details, please see our Library News page at [www.thrall.org/libnews](http://www.thrall.org/libnews) ("Reference Service" section).

### **THE VIRTUAL NEWSSTAND**

You can now access favorite and popular magazines and other periodicals in print that we subscribe to at Thrall through the "Virtual NewsStand" at our website. From this one location you can locate a magazine's website, where there might be free downloads and other useful information offered by that publication. If a periodical is included in our full-text article databases, you can click the "databases" link under a magazine or journal title and proceed to search for articles in current and/or past issues. The NewsStand also lets you easily locate a publication within the library catalog in the event you are searching for a particular issue and wanted to know if and where it was available, whether it was at Thrall or another library. If you need to reserve a specific issue, we can help you do that at the Reference Department. You can access the Virtual NewsStand at [www.thrall.org/newsstand](http://www.thrall.org/newsstand) or by clicking the "popular magazines" link on our home page.

### **NEW FREE ONLINE MUSIC SERVICES**

Members of Middletown Thrall Library can now freely enjoy two new music services through our website: "American Song" and "Contemporary World Music." The "American Song" music service is described as "music relating to almost every walk of American life, every ethnic group, and every time period." "Contemporary World Music" features "contemporary reggae, world beat, neo-traditional, world fusion, jazz, flamenco, Bollywood," and many other genres. To begin enjoying these services, go to the Music section of our Databases page at [thrall.org/databases](http://thrall.org/databases) and log in with your Thrall card.

### **Future Title Watch**

To help you keep up with the latest and greatest books being published, we have created a new free monthly publication called "Future Title Watch" featuring fiction and nonfiction titles from noteworthy authors. Print copies are available at the library, and downloadable editions of the title lists can be found at our website at [thrall.org/docs](http://thrall.org/docs)

(FROM THE HEAD OF REFERENCE – CONTINUED)

You can also browse our monthly title features in our Booklover's Blog and click on titles you like to review and, if you want, to reserve for pickup at the library. If you are unsure how to do this, you can call our Reference Department at 341-5461, and we will be happy to help!

### New York State Information Guide

Our New York State and City information guide on the web has been revised and expanded. Some of the many categories include Arts, Business and Finance, Consumer, Education, Emergencies and Natural Disasters, Environment, Government, Health, Labor, Law, News, Taxes, Travel and Tourism, Vital Records, and Weather. You can reach the guide through our home page or by going to this web address: [www.thrall.org/newyork](http://www.thrall.org/newyork)

### FROM GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LIBRARIAN, KAREN A. HEIL *One of Our Latest Acquisitions*

The United States Census Bureau has produced a beautiful visual representation of the changing population of the United States from 1790 to 2000. Last produced in 1925, the current *Census Atlas of the United States* includes 700 full-color maps, sections on migration, language, ancestry, education, military service and much more.

"The [Atlas] is an invitation to spend several hours considering the characteristics of our country," said former Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon. "These maps do not merely offer graphic representations of the facts and data. They reveal the relationships among our nation's people and the states, cities and counties where they have chosen to live. In short, the book tells the story of our nation — its past, present and future."

The Atlas is located on the Atlas stand near the Reference Desk. Come in and take a look.

## WHERE STORIES TAKE US

Thrall's Spring 2008 Book Discussion Series continues with:

***A Thousand Splendid Sons* by Khaled Hosseini**  
**Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2008, 7 - 9 PM**  
Scholar: Chris Godwin

***I Heard the Owl Call My Name* by Margaret Craven**  
**Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2008, 7 - 9 PM**  
Scholar: Peggy Abt

Please call the program coordinator at 341-5479 for book availability and more information.

## MEET AN AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR!

On Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, Susan Beth Pfeffer will discuss her most recent book, *Life As We Knew It*, and its companion volume, *The Dead and the Gone*, which will be published in June by Harcourt. Ms. Pfeffer wrote over seventy books for children and young adults. She began her career in 1970, with the publication of her first book, *Just Morgan*. Ms. Pfeffer is also a dedicated Friends of Middletown Thrall Library Inc. volunteer. She will answer questions about her books and the writing process. Copies of the author's books will be available after the program for purchase and for autographing.

## BENJAMIN FRANKLIN EXHIBIT "IN SEARCH OF A BETTER WORLD"

*Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World* is a national traveling exhibit, and it will be on display at the Middletown Thrall Library from June 4 to July 25, 2008. This exhibit examines the remarkable life and achievements of one of America's most beloved personalities.

The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary, Philadelphia and the American Library Association organized the exhibit with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): great ideas brought to life.

A full brochure detailing upcoming events and performances will soon be mailed to patrons subscribed to our adult programming announcement service. If you would like to receive such announcements, please call 341-5479 or register at our website at [www.thrall.org/bookdiscussions](http://www.thrall.org/bookdiscussions). Information will also appear in the near future at [thrall.org](http://thrall.org).

## Youth Services Programs

**"A Mother's Day Gift":** A special three day craft program for ages 8 to 13. Here are the dates:

- Monday, April 21, 2008, 3:00 PM until done
- Wednesday, April 23, 2008, 3:00 PM until done
- Friday, April 25, 2008, 3:00 PM until done

**"The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe":** On Friday April 25, 2008, 10:30 AM, the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company will perform this imaginative and fun story.

**"Come Draw with Me"** continues on these dates:

- May 10th, 12 - 1 PM: "Dragons"
- June 14th, 12 - 1 PM: "Bees and Ants"
- July 19th, 12 - 1 PM: "The Pink Panther Cartoon"
- August 9th, 12 - 1 PM: "Sunflowers and Vase"
- September 13th, 1 - 2 PM: "Spiders and Webs"
- October 11th, 1 - 2 PM: "Squirrels and Acorns"
- November 15th 1 - 2 PM: "Turkeys"
- December 13th, 12 - 1 PM: "Evergreen Trees"

For more information about upcoming events, check out our Youth Services Blog at [thrall.org/blogs](http://thrall.org/blogs) or call the Children's Department at 341-5470.

## Securing Your Future and the Futures of Loved Ones...

# Elder Law 2008

**Thursday, May 8, 2008, 11:00 AM to Noon**  
in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room at Thrall

Are you ready for the future? Attend Elder Law 2008 for a "free legal checkup" and put your mind at ease! Learn about wills, health care proxies, powers of attorney, what documents to keep and for how long. A lawyer will explain it all so you can begin to make more informed personal health care and financial decisions! This program is sponsored by the New York State Bar Association. Handouts and sample documents will be provided. Please call 341-5479 for more information.