

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Fall 2011 Issue

"Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing." – Abraham Lincoln

From Matt Pfisterer Director of Middletown Thrall Library Library Budget Vote

The public vote on the proposed 2012 library district budget and election of trustees will be held from 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM on **Tuesday October 4, 2011**.

Polls will be open in the **Reading Room** of the Middletown Thrall Library (11-19 Depot Street Middletown, NY 10940). All registered voters who reside in the Thrall Public Library District are eligible to vote.

The proposed operating budget for next year is \$3,134,963 representing an increase of 4% from the previous year. The proposed budget will increase the tax levy by 4.5% over 2011. The board of trustees has reviewed the proposed budget with consideration of the difficult economic times facing our taxpayers, and the budget is designed to maintain Library resources at their current levels.

Library usage and demand for library materials has increased significantly as demonstrated by a more than 7% increase (through July) in item circulation this year over the previous year.

Currently there are three candidates for three openings on the Board of Trustees. The two candidates with the highest vote totals will receive four year terms and the third highest vote recipient will receive a three year term. The individuals who are running for seats are: Carl Sandler Berkowitz, Rosa M. Boyd, and Marlena F. Lange.

You can pick up a copy of the proposed budget in the library or view the information on the library's website at www.thrall.org/budget

(continued)

MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Matt Pfisterer, Library Director

Fall 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: 341-5485

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

(From the Director continued)

"Help for You" Job Consultations

Sign up for a **free one hour job consultation** with Laura LaSusa from Orange County Employment and Training Administration. She can provide valuable information about:

- **Creating a job-ready resume**
- **Removing barriers to employment**
- **Acing the interview**
- **Assessing training needs**
- **Career changes**
- **Current labor market information**
- **Cover and follow-up letters**
- **and more**

Interested Middletown Thrall Library card holders may inquire with the **Library Director** for a **one hour session** on one of the following dates from **9 AM to 1 PM**:

- **Thursday October 6, 2011**
- **Thursday October 13, 2011**
- **Thursday October 20, 2011**

This program has been partially funded by the Ramapo Catskill Library System Coordinated 2011 Outreach Grant from the New York State Education Department, Division of Library Development.

From Our Head of Reference Mary Susan Flannery Climes

American History Resource Guide

As part of our mission to make finding information online *and* in the library easier, quicker, safer, and more productive for you, we have thoroughly redesigned and expanded our American History guide (www.thrall.org/history).

This guide centralizes American history information you can access through Middletown Thrall Library.

In addition to direct links to our history databases, related virtual reference works, and American History subjects within the library system catalog, our guide includes numerous excellent resources in the following areas: Overviews of American History, Founders and the Constitution, Presidents, Vice Presidents, First Ladies, Images and Documents, History by Period, and Native Americans.

From the main menu you can also access other specialized resource guides our Reference Department provides, including Black History Month and Women's History Month.

(From Our Head of Reference continued)

A New Legal Research Tool

In addition to our existing (and admittedly challenging) subscription database known as Westlaw, we now offer access to **WestlawNext Patron Access**, which Westlaw promises will help simplify "your starting point for legal research."

You can use **WestlawNext Patron Access** to search in plain-English, using simple descriptive terms. You can search without having to choose a database first, as you would have to do within the standard Westlaw interface. Results are ranked by relevance.

Categories included automatically in your searches are: **Statutes and Court Rules, Regulations, Forms, Briefs, Pleadings, Motions, Memoranda, Verdicts, Settlements, Proposed and Enacted Legislation**, and much more.

Note: some search results may *not* be accessible because they are not included in our library's subscription plan.

We will still offer access to the original Westlaw database. Both Westlaw and WestlawNext can be accessed on any of the library's research or public Internet workstations.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): eBooks

Those of you who have recently discovered the interesting (and occasionally technically frustrating) world of eBooks naturally have many questions, such as:

- Which format should I download?
- Can I renew eBooks?
- Why are so few titles available?

We provide answers to these and many other common questions on a free handout available in print at the library as well as online at our website (under "eBooks" at this address: www.thrall.org/docs).

Currently on Display...

Our latest adult book display is **Call of the Quest: Heroic Journeys and Adventurous Tales**. Located on the **first floor** by our **adult library catalog computers** (near the stairs to the second floor), this display features titles celebrating quests of various natures and times: treasure seeking, sacred pilgrimages, classic epic tales, and more. We encourage you to explore and check out titles you like.

Hurricane Irene Resources (www.thrall.org/special)

Our **Special Coverage Center** includes local, county, state, and federal sources of particular interest to local area residents and business owners seeking news, possible sources of relief, assistance, and other important information relating to recent floods and aftermath of Hurricane Irene.

"Reel Eclectic" Film Series

Our film series continues in 2011 on these dates at **7 PM**:

- 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**: **September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21.**

Fall 2011 Book Discussion Series *Stories in Screen III*

Back by popular demand, our series daring to ask "do good films make good movies?" will feature these books + films:

Book: *Atonement* by Ian McEwan

Discussion: Tuesday, October 4, 2011, 7 PM

Film: Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 7 PM

Book: *Cider House Rules* by John Irving

Discussion: Tuesday, October 18, 2011, 7 PM

Film: Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 7 PM

Book: *Primary Colors* by "Anonymous"

Discussion: Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 7 PM

Film: Tuesday, November 8, 7 PM

Please see our full brochure (coming very soon) for full details, or feel free to inquire at our **Reference Department**.

From Our Government Information Center



History has had a definite impact on America's eating habits. Since 1894, the Department of Agriculture has studied the latest research on diet and nutrition to make sure Americans maintain proper eating habits to ensure good health. Back then, eating a balanced diet with many types of food and adequate calories was important. During the World Wars, recipes and shopping hints were added to help families who struggled with shortages. After the Great Depression, with many Americans undernourished, a high calorie, high protein diet was encouraged. By the 1970's the number one killer was heart disease, the guidelines changed, calling for restricting calories and limiting fat and sugar. From 1980 on, every five years, the USDA began to publish the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, highlighting the five food groups with the Food Wheel. In 1992, the Food Pyramid appeared with grains serving as the base, fruits and vegetables next with the top of the pyramid showing smaller amounts of protein and, finally, fats and sugars at the very top. This year the pyramid is gone, replaced by MyPlate! - "a new generation icon with the intent to prompt consumers to think about building a healthy plate at meal times and to seek more information to help them do that by going to www.ChooseMyPlate.gov.... The new MyPlate icon [pictured above] emphasizes the fruit, vegetable, grains, protein and dairy food groups." It seems like we have cycled back to the 1894 ideas of a balance diet with lots of choices!

"Come Draw with Me!"

On **Saturdays** for ages **7 to 12**. Limit of 15 members of Thrall Library. **Registration required**. Upcoming events: **October 8**, 1-2 PM ("Frankenstein"), **November 5**, 1-2 PM ("Cornucopia"), **December 3**, 12 - 1 PM ("Doves")

Game Days at Thrall

Join us for Game Days the **first Friday of each month** from **4 PM to 6 PM**: October 7, November 4, December 2. We will have games for all ages!

Meet Sasha, the Therapy Dog!

Tuesdays (4:15 - 5:15 PM) on September 19th, October 3rd, October 17th, October 24th, November 7th, November 14th. in the Children's Department. For ages 6 and up. Registration required. Please call (845) 341-5470 for more details.

Free Knitting & Crochet Workshops

Learn about basic stitches, patterns, and more! Open to children age 8 and up, young adults, as well as adults. Our schedule is for the following dates on **Mondays, 6 - 7:45 PM**: **September 19th, October 3rd, October 17th, October 24th, November 7th, November 28th, December 5th.**