

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Late Winter 2016 Edition

"Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day." - Thomas Jefferson

From Our Library Director Matt Pfisterer

Special Grant Received from Senator Bonacic

The Library would like to express our thanks to NYS Senator John J. Bonacic who secured a \$5,000 New York State Grant for the Library.

These funds were used to greatly improve the quality of the Library's wireless internet connection throughout the building.

Patrons now have the ability to access the internet via their personal devices and get a strong connection on both floors of the Library.

Additional grant funding was used to purchase sturdy and comfortable seating located throughout the first floor of the building.

We have noticed an increase in the number of people who are bringing their smart phones, laptops and tablets to the Library to take advantage of our new and improved wireless internet connection.

To make things a little bit easier for you we have recently added tables in the Library's first floor Reading Room that have electronic and USB connections so that you can plug in and recharge your devices.

So relax and enjoy the new furniture, stronger wireless internet connection and so much more that your Library has to offer.

Middletown Thrall Library

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Our Late Winter / Early Spring hours:

Mon.- Thurs.: 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: 341-5454, ext. 5479

Adult Events Coordinator: 341-5483

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

From Our Head of Reference Services Mary Susan Flannery Climes

The Reference Shelf

www.thrall.org/trs

The Reference Shelf is a series of books available primarily in our **print collection**. Each volume focuses on an important **current interest topic** and presents facts objectively through full text articles and abstracts from esteemed publications.

These books are great for researchers or anyone else interested in learning more about a subject. Best of all, these books **can be borrowed!**

Online, we also offer **free digital access** to recent volumes from this series, including: *The Digital Age*, *Representative American Speeches*, *The Supreme Court*, *Surveillance*, *The Transformation of American Cities*, and *Whistleblowers*. Digital editions can be accessed within the library or **at home** when you log in with your **Thrall library card number**.

Catching Up with History

www.thrall.org/histories

Whether you're interested in learning more about **African-American history**, **local history**, **women's history**, the history of **our country**, **world history**, or some *other* event or person in the past, we offer a wide variety of resources in our library and at our website you can explore. Our online guides can help you quickly locate **library materials** as well as **websites!**

Election 2016

www.thrall.org/election2016

Our **online information guide** continues to be updated to help you keep up with the 2016 race for the U.S. Presidency. You can learn about **voting**, **campaign finance**, the **Electoral College**, **candidates**, **political parties**, related news, and more!

World Book Encyclopedia

www.thrall.org/wbe

Members of Middletown Thrall Library can **freely access** the complete contents of this multimedia encyclopedia **at home!** Besides the in-depth World Book "Reference Center," there is also an online edition for **younger researchers** plus an **edition entirely in Spanish!** Computer / Web and Life Skill tutorials are also available!

From Our Government Information Librarian...

Say "Hi" to **Ben** – yes, **Benjamin Franklin!** He represents **Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government** (bensguide.gpo.gov), a website designed by the Government Publishing Office (GPO), to help inform students, parents, and educators about the Federal Government, which issues the publications and information products disseminated by the GPO's Federal Depository Library Program.



With learning adventures tailored to three levels, Apprentice for ages 4 – 8, Journeyperson for ages 9 -13 and Master level for those 14 years and older, students learn about the Branches of Government, How Laws are Made, famous historic documents, the Election Process, symbols of government and more.

Try your hand at the interactive "Place the States" game where users drag and drop the 50 states into their correct place on the U.S. map or test your knowledge of the three branches of government by playing the Branch-O-Mania quiz on who does what. Want to know who signed the Declaration of Independence with a large, bold script or who invented the eyeglasses? Come and play the games!

Upcoming Events

www.thrall.org/events

Free events held in our 2nd Floor Community Room:

Afternoon Movies: 3rd Wednesday each month, 3 PM:

Mar. 16, 2016: *Age of Adaline* (2015) 113 min. Drama. PG-13.

Apr. 20, 2016: *Sunshine Boys* (1975) 111 min. Comedy. PG.

May 18, 2016: *High Society* (1956) 111 min. Musical. Not rated.

June 15, 2016: *Ricki & The Flash* (2015) 101 min. Comedy. PG-13.

Garden Salvage Art - March 9, 2016, 6 - 7 PM

Use old or found items to create charm in the garden! Presented by a Master Gardener, Cornell University Cooperative Extension Orange County

Crystal Bowl Meditations - March 19, 2016, 1 - 2 PM

Enjoy the peace and vibrational resonance of crystal bowls! Presented by Corinne Smith of HopeStream in Wallkill, NY.

The Grace Murder Case - March 22, 2016, 6 - 7:30 PM

The "Lizzie Borden case" of Walden, New York, presented by author and local historian Lisa Melville.

Motown through the Eyes of Fans - March 23, 2016, 6 - 7 PM

A book talk with photographs presented by author Tom Ingrassia.

O&W: The Ontario and Western Railway

March 29, 2016, 6-8 PM

Presented by Ray Kelly, local railroad and trolley historian.

The Joys of Hiking: Learn How to Get Started in Hiking

April 18, 2016, 6:30-7:30 PM

Presented by Peter Reiner, hike leader of the Adirondack Mountain Club, North Jersey Ramapo Chapter.

Butterflies & Moths of Orange County - May 11, 2016, 6-7 PM

Learn about and appreciate these lovely insects. Presented by a Master Gardener, Cornell University Cooperative Extension Orange County

Kayaking: How to Get Started - May 16, 2016, 6:30 - 8 PM

Presented by Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) trip leader Don Urmston.

Creating Container Gardens - June 7, 2016, 6 - 7 PM

Presented by a Master Gardener, Cornell University Cooperative Extension Orange County

Local Authors & Illustrators Showcase

Saturday, April 30, 2016, 11 AM - 4 PM
in our 2nd Floor Community Room

Meet and speak with **Sandra Bischoff, Frances Brown, Tom Ingrassia, Charles S. Isaacs, Tracey Lyons, Phil Murphy,** and **Marianne Sciucco,** and many others!

Refreshments served. Enjoy raffles and mini-talks as well!

This event is **free** and **open to the public.** For more information, please contact **Gail Myker:** thrall3@warwick.net or (845) 341-5483.

Children's Events

For information on any of these events, please visit our Children's Dept. or call (845) 341-5470.

Story Time!

Wednesdays up to March 30, 2016

"First Step" (Drop-In Story Time) Ages: 18 months – 35 months
In our Story Time Room. 9:30-10:00 AM. **No registration required.**

"Explorers" (Story Time & Craft). Ages: 3 & 4
In our Story Time Room, 10:15–10:45 AM. **Registration required.**

"Moving on Up" (Story Time & Craft) Ages: 5-7
In our Story Time Room, 4:15 pm–5:00 pm. **Registration required**

Knitting & Crochet Classes

Free classes on Mondays, 6 PM - 7:45 PM:

March 7th, March 21st, April 4th, April 18th
May 2nd, May 16th

also available: **Afternoon Knitting & Crochet**

March 10th, March 24th, April 7th,
April 21st, May 2nd, May 19th

Let's Read to Sasha!

Meet Sasha, the therapy dog!

Mondays (4:15 PM - 5:30 PM)

in the **Story Time Room:**

March 7th, March 21st, April 4th
April 18th, May 2nd, May 18th

Homework Help!

Tuesdays & Thursdays (4-7 PM)
up to May 19, 2016

in our 2nd Floor Story Time Room

No registration required!

Students in grades 1 - 6 can get free homework help! **Please note:** **No homework help is available when the Middletown School District is closed or when it cancels after school activities. No Homework Help on March 22, 2016 or March 24, 2016.**