

Enriching, Informing, & Empowering Our Local Communities Since 1901

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Winter 2017 Edition

"Beyond this bleakly wintered scene, assuring light relieves each branch, affirming all such seasons last no longer than a night of dreams in this forest of our trance. Now, let us wake and look to March." *Local Poet*

A Special Message from Our *Library Director* Matt Pfisterer

We are deeply saddened by the loss of longtime Thrall Library Trustee and Friends of Middletown Thrall Library Board member **Barbara (Bobbie) Kay** who passed away on September 28, 2016. Throughout her lifetime, Bobbie was involved in many community activities, including Middletown Thrall Library, where she served as a Trustee for more than 11 years and The Friends of Middletown Thrall Library, where she served as past President and longtime active member of the Board.

She was former Treasurer of Salvation Army, past President of OCCC Alumni Association, and the Industrial Development Agency of Middletown, as well as many others. She was a faithful member and Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Middletown. Bobbie taught at Orange County Community College in the Accounting Department for eighteen years. She maintained her private practice "Barbara A. Kay Bookkeeping and Tax Service" for almost forty years. All of us at the Library are extremely grateful and appreciative of all her efforts on our behalf. We have lost a very special part of our Library family.

I extend a warm welcome to **Linda Martini** and **Marianne Sciucco** who were elected at the Library District's public budget vote and trustee election that took place on October 4, 2016. They will serve four year terms as members of the Library District's Board of Trustees. I also extend the sincere thanks of the Board of Trustees, staff, and patrons of the Library to **Lois Ruckert** for her years of valuable service as a past President and member of our Board.

Middletown Thrall Library

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Our Regular / Winter 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

Update: **Rosetta Stone**
www.thrall.org/rosetta

Rosetta Stone, an online language service, was recently expanded to cover *many* more languages: **Arabic, Chinese** (Mandarin), **Dari, Dutch, English** (American or British), **Filipino** (Tagalog), **French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Pasto, Persian** (Farsi), **Polish, Portuguese** (Brazil), **Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Turkish, Urdu, and Vietnamese**. Thanks to funding from RCLS' Central Library, members of Thrall can log in **freely** to this service with their **library card numbers!** Existing students of *Rosetta SA* can still access that older edition until further notice. *Enjoy!*

Fake News, Fact Checks,
Media Watchdogs + Critical Thinking
www.thrall.org/facts

Oxford Dictionaries selected "post-truth" as their 2016 "Word of the Year," noting its rise in usage at a time feelings confused facts and "fake news" stories, along with "alternate" views, went "viral" across social and traditional media.

Today, in a world where **disinformation** dares to imperil **democracy** itself, we know **facts matter**. We've always advocated **critical thinking skills** at the library and online (www.thrall.org/think). Our website lets *anyone* learn how to begin investigating any **claim, rumor, or debate** on their own.

Our **Ready Reference Guide** (www.thrall.org/readyref) also lets you browse websites *and* library system items on topics such as **Fact-Checkers, Issues & Viewpoints, Media Watchdogs, Urban Legends,** and *much* more.

As an proven and permanent ally in your quest for truth and understanding, we invite you to empower yourself through the many **free research tools and resources** available at Thrall.

Thrall Online Reference Updates
www.thrall.org/dbaz

We are *very excited* to offer Thrall patrons a variety of new online **reference works** and **directories**. Each are **freely accessible** when you log in with your **Thrall card number**.

Please follow **the link above** for complete details on each of these titles in the alphabetical list on our website: ***America's Top Rated Cities, America's Top Rated Smaller Cities, Comparative Guide to American Elementary & Secondary Schools, Complete Directory for People with Disabilities, Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World, Environmental Resource Handbook, Older Americans Information Directory, This Is Who We Were.***

From our **Government Information Center**

"He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past." - George Orwell, 1984

The 115th Congress was sworn in on January 3rd. Our new President and his Administration take over on January 20th. Whenever this happens, agency websites and government documents can and do change or *disappear* "overnight." What happens to digital information from past Administrations? It represents an important history of government and policy. Paper documents once safeguarded such policies of the past, but digital can be *deleted* - lost, or worse, as in 1984, where history could even be *rewritten* to support the politics of the *present*.

But, *not* to worry! In 2008, before the transition at the end of President Bush's Administration, the **End of Term (eotarchive.cdlib.org)** project was initiated. Non-profit organizations and universities came together to preserve "at-risk websites" and government documents. Along with the **Internet Archive (archive.org)**, partners including the Library of Congress, California Digital Library, University of North Texas Libraries, U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), among others, began archiving these important and sensitive websites. Recently, the **National Archives (archives.gov)** preserved **President Obama's White House website** at obamawhitehouse.gov or obamawhitehouse.archives.gov.

The **American Presidency Project**, (non-profit, non-partisan since 1999), (www.presidency.ucsb.edu), created by the University of California, Santa Barbara is another great source for historic presidential documents, including party platforms, candidate remarks, Statements of Administration Policy, election debates, and more.

Internet Archive just announced "**The Trump Archive**" (archive.org/details/trumparchive) containing over 700 televised news, speeches, interviews, debates, and other broadcasts related to the President. We are very fortunate so many people are concerned about preserving and respecting the past. Stay informed! Stay up to date!

Upcoming Events at Thrall

Please visit www.thrall.org/events for full details or call 341-5483. These **free events** will be held in our 2nd Floor **Community Room** (unless otherwise noted):

Afternoon Movies (films begin at 3 PM)

Feb. 21: **Genius** (2016). 104 min. Drama. PG-13.
Mar. 22: **The Notebook** (2004). 124 min. Romance. PG-13.
Apr. 19: **Easter Parade** (1948). 124 min. Musical. Not rated.

The Art of Validation: March 25, 1 - 3 PM

Presented by author / emotional wellness coach Jennifer Circosta.

Handmade Pasta: Feb. 18, 1 PM

A book talk and a demonstration by author Nicole Karr.

Meditative States: Feb. 25, 1 - 3 PM

Learn new meditative techniques. Presented by Lisa Leonard.

Planning & Developing Your Product

March 14 (5 PM), March 21 (5:30 PM), March 28 (5:30 PM), April 4 (5:30 PM), April 11 (5:30 PM), April 18 (5:30 PM), April 25 (5 PM). **Attention inventors!** Ever have a "great idea" for a new product? This is your opportunity to find out if it could work! Attend **six free classes** to attend **special seventh session**, where you can present your idea / plan to **Small Business Officers** of two local banks, a **Small Business Administration (SBA)** member, and **three investors**. This *very special* program is presented by Steven Lindner. **Free registration is required.** Other requirements: notebook, pen, and calculator. Weekly assigned tasks will be provided. Please see **Gail Myker** or call 341-5483 for registration and complete details.

Remarkable Reads Book Discussion: Feb. 28, 3 PM

Hosted by Matt Pfisterer. Book: **Modern Romance** by Aziz Ansari.

Reel Eclectic Film (My King): Feb. 2, 2 PM

For adults (not rated). Romance. 125 min. Directed by Maiwenn.

Taste Korea: Korean Cuisine, Wisdom & Nature + A Short Film March 4, 1 PM. Kimchi, bibimbap, bulgogi, more! Limited to 30 participants. **Please register with Gail Myker at 341-5483.**

Children's Events

To register for certain events or for more information, visit our **Children's Dept.** or call 341-5470.

Take your Child to the Library Day!

February 4, 2017 in our **Story Time Room** at Thrall

Come see all the great things your library has to offer, and join us for a **special Story Time. FREE GIVE-AWAYS ALL DAY while supplies last. Registration required:**

Ages 18 months through 3 years: **10:15 AM - 10:45 AM**

Ages 4 years through 8 years (Story & Craft): **11 - 11:30 AM**

Valentine's Day Stories & Craft

February 14, 2017 in our **Story Time Room** at Thrall

9:30 AM - 10 AM (ages 18 months - 35 months). *No registration.*

10:15 AM - 11 AM (ages 3 - 5 years). **Register Feb. 6 - Feb 13.**

Join Our Homeschooler's Club!

Our Homeschooler's club will meet on the **third Friday** of the month, **1:30 - 3 PM**, in our **2nd Floor Community Room** at Thrall:

February 17, 2017 March 17, 2017 April 21, 2017

May 19, 2017 June 16, 2017

The main contact person for the Club is **Ms. Tammy Sabat**. For more details, such as participant ages, projects, themes, or for registration, please call **(914) 772-0180**.

Story Time 2017

Registration begins **Feb. 6, 2017**. Story Time runs **Wednesdays from Feb. 22nd to March 29th**:

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

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

"**Moving on Up**" (Story Time & Craft) ages 5-7. In Story Time Room, **4:15 PM - 5 PM. Registration required.**

Homework Help 2017

For students in **grades 1 to 6. No registration required.**

Available in the **Story Time Room** at Thrall:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4 PM- 7 PM

Wednesdays: 5 PM - 7 PM

There is **no Homework Help** from **April 11 to April 13, 2017. Please note:** there will be **no homework help** available when the **Middletown School District** is **closed** or when it **cancels after-school activities**.

Free Knitting & Crochet Classes

Mondays, 6 PM - 7:45 PM: Feb. 27, March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24, May 8, May 22, June 5. **For ALL ages!**

also available: **Afternoon Knitting & Crochet (2 PM):** March 2nd, 16th, & 30th; April 13th & 27th. **For ALL ages!**

Ask us about our **advanced** knitting & crochet classes!

Bricks 4 Kidz 2017

Guided Lego activities and great creative fun for **ages 5-9** starting at **10:30 AM** in our **Story Time Room** at Thrall:

February 25th (register as of Feb. 1, 2017)

March 25th (register as of March 1, 2017)

April 22nd (register as of April 1, 2017)

May 20th (register as of April 29, 2017)

More Events Coming Soon in 2017!

Please visit us, or call 341-5470, or check out our **blog** (www.thrall.org/youthblog) for our latest children's events.